



STMAS ISSUE | CHRISTMAS ISSUE

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REVIEWS: OWARIMONOOGATARI | LUPIN III | HEAVY OBJECT & MORE
MANGA: FRUITS BASKET ANOTHER | OVERLORD | BASTARD | AJIN
HOOKED BOOK: JAPANESE DESIGN | JAPANESE ARCHITECTURE
GAMER'S ARENA: SENRAN KAGURA:ESTIVAL VERSUS | NARUTO STORM 4

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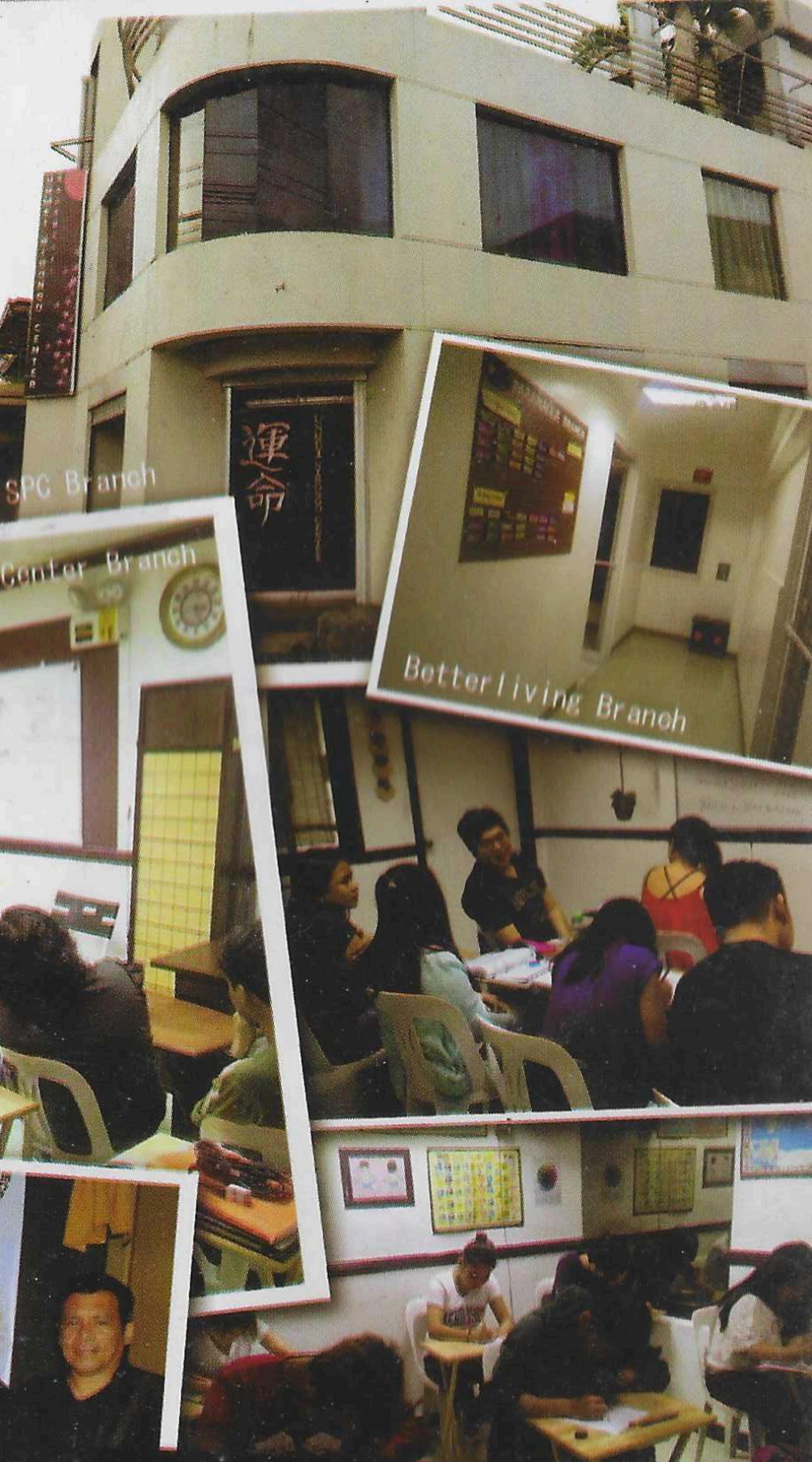


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if its
Hungarian
it must be **Hero**



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For this issue, we would like to thank E2046 and Tuttle Publishing for always giving us new content to feature. We look forward to another year of reviews.

This may not be the last issue of the year but it is our year-end and Christmas issue in one. Here we look back at the biggest cosplay event, Cosplay Mania and our biggest annual review, O-kun's Year End Report. We also have chosen one of the noisy and popular sports anime of the year, Haikyuu!!

We hope to see you, otafans, again next month for our New Year issue. Merry Christmas!

-Kanddy

CONTRIBUTOR'S QUESTION:

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPORT/S & WHY?

I want to try aikido next time, saw it used by Kazuha of Detective Conan and since then i wanted to learn it. I still have to build up my courage tho coz when i played taekwondo before I knew then that I'm not very good in athletics. Oh but i'm confident in chess.. Haha

-Elaine Palaruan

I'm not that into sports but I love to learn more about basketball. It was fun playing in high school. I'm also interested in track and field.

-Dhanliza Cellona

Badminton because I enjoy playing it and I love smashing and hitting stuffs so yeahh.. I also like basketball but I cannot last one round. I got tired easily and had a hard time catching my breath after playing. If I want learn another one, I want to learn skating. It looks fun.

-Dianne Gaviño

For physical sports, I would say Basketball since that's what I grew up with. I spent high school in a small school where everyone plays the game to an extent, so an interest in the game and the real life leagues slowly came naturally.

-John Robert Lim

I used to play Badminton because I like the impact it makes when I get to hit, but I should be doing Pilates right now, although please don't ask me why I'm not doing it yet. Haha!

-Ann Carmel Flores

I love the water. When I'm swimming, it feels like I'm on air, flying. If there's anything I'd like to learn, I want it to be diving. I want to know how to do it like in the olympics although I'd don't think I'll ever do it professionally. I just want it for the bragging rights. /heh

-Kent Diamante

I played racket sports like lawn tennis and badminton back in my high school and college days. I guess the only reason I chose them was because I suck big time when it comes to team sports.

-Mikelle Abubo

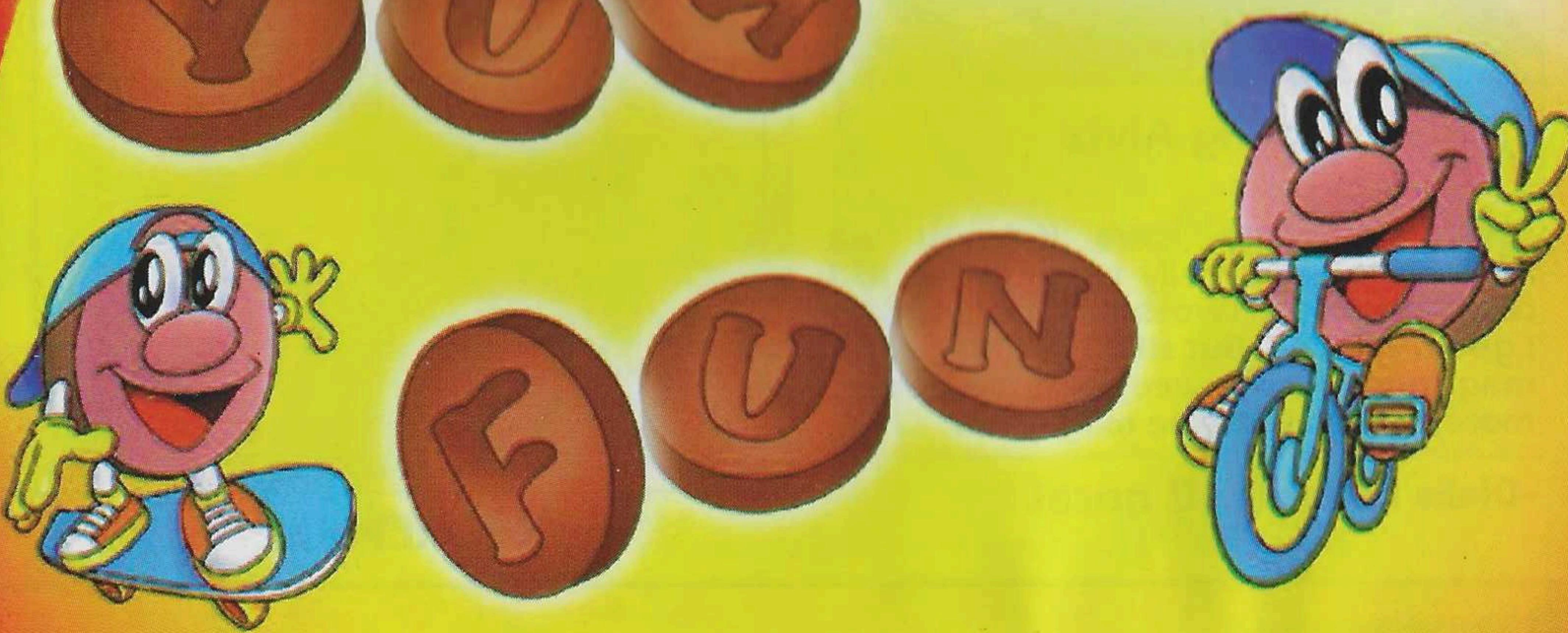
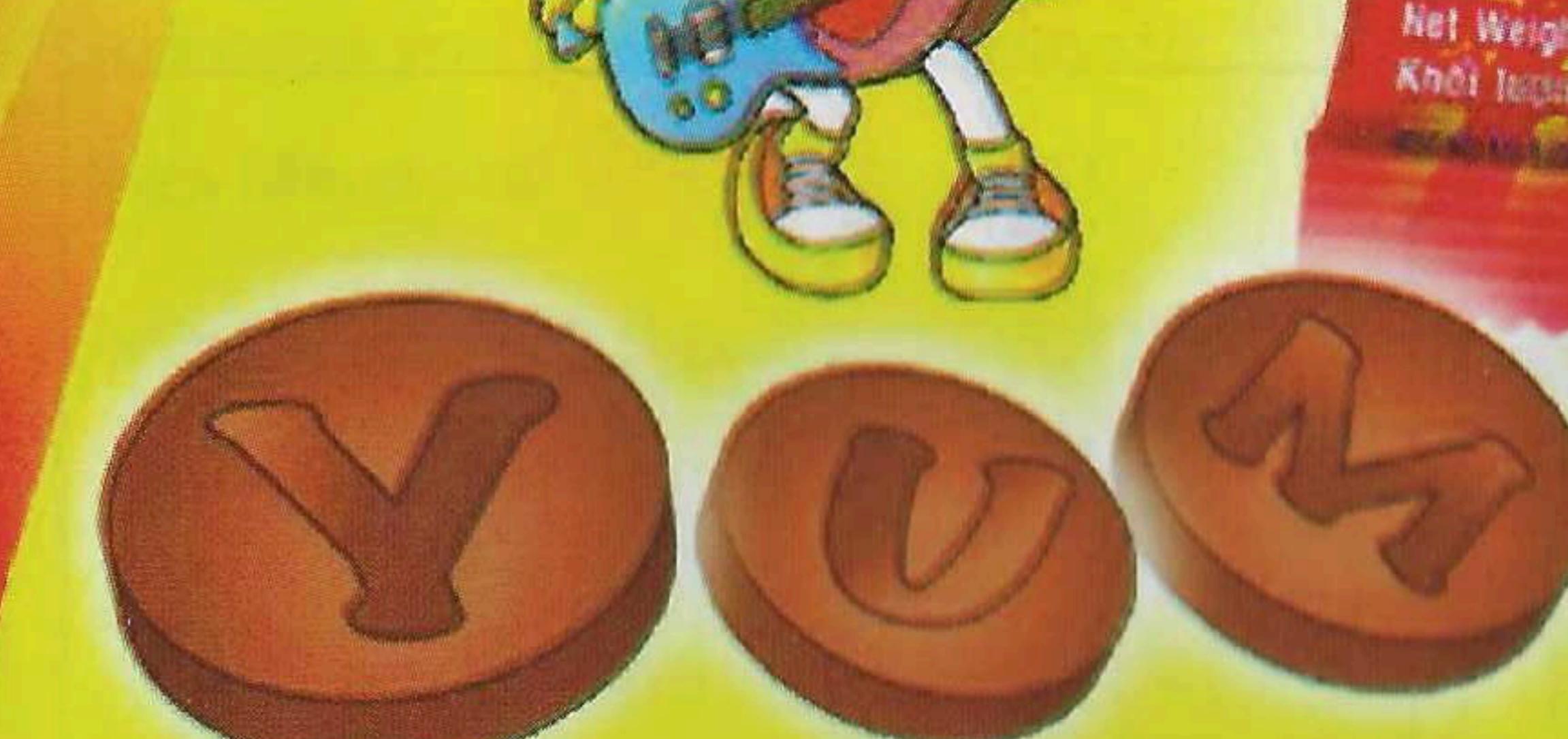
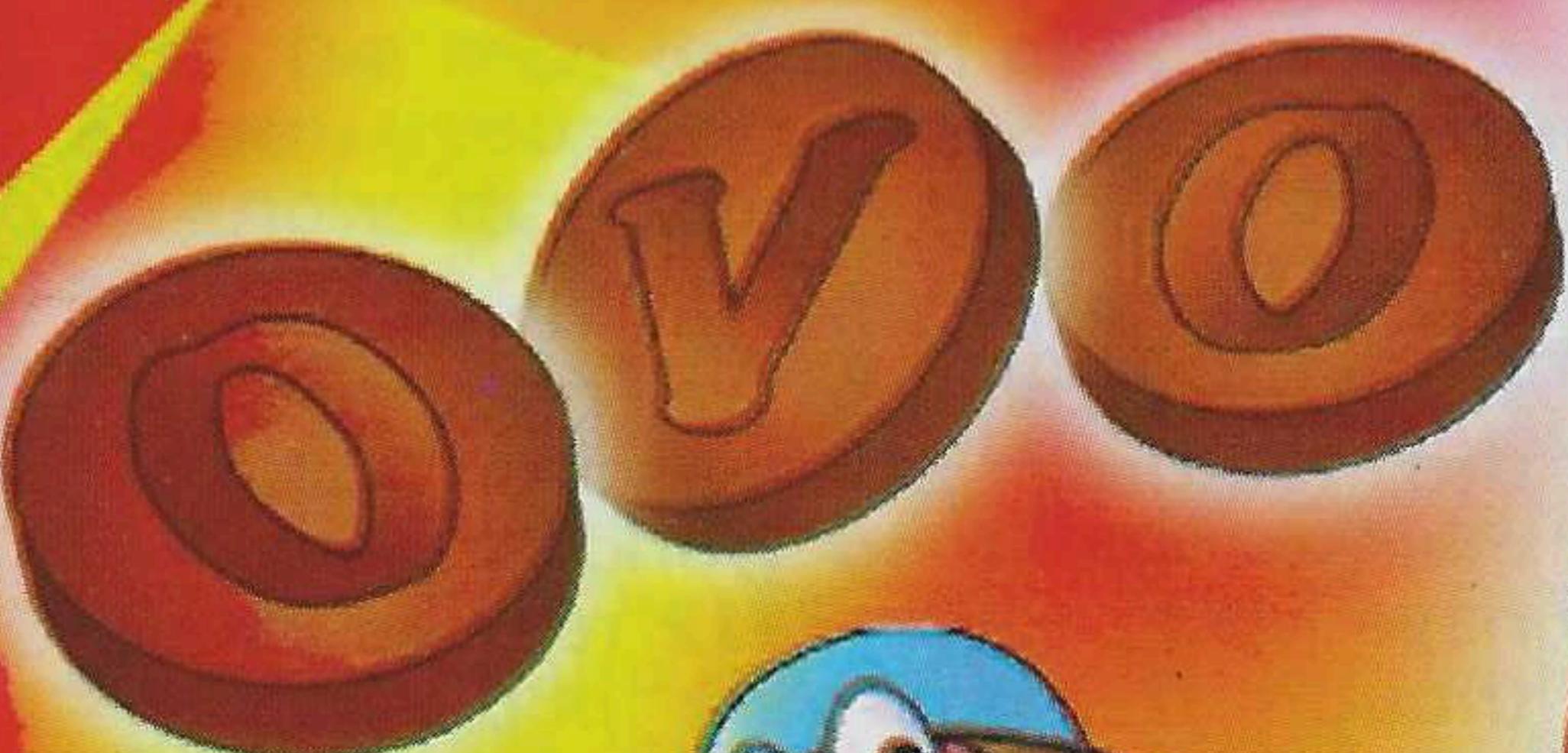
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INBOX

I wish you would feature in you next issue Ranma 1/2 and sket dance. Also, I've already collected the following issues; Devil Survivor 2, Log Horizon Vocaloid 3, Amagi Brilliant Park, Tokyo Ghoul, Date A Live, Mekaku City Actors, Nisekoi False Love, Sword Art Online 2, Sailor Moon Crystal (Liui), Danganrop. Thank u so much for publishing this awesome magazine and also pls don't stop selling issues of Otaku Asia here in Iloilo and also put in you next issue the prize for completing issues of this mag.

Ricel Seduco



Jeng Alviz

Will you please issue Kaichou wa maid-sama? We really want to see it! I only bought the two issues that I saw so I got depressed. But still! I'm a fan of this magazine! Please keep on producing more of this awesome magazine!

-Olalia Michaela



Xander

Got the latest issue. The reviews and stuffs are organized well and the way the featured animes are not all mainstream. Good work. Hoping to have Magic Kaito 1412 review. Even though it's not very popular the anime is quite good. Expecting more sugoi stuffs to come!!

-Natsume Chloe Yui



Rosheil Parel

Konichiwa Otaku Asia mag staff! How are you guys? I hope you're all doing good.

My name is Riza, 24 years old from Valenzuela City. I've bought my very first issue of your mag last December & I've been drawn to it immediately. And just today, I've bought your year-end issue! If an opinion of a 20-year old otaku matters, I've got to say that your mag is really cool. I've been kind of behind on animes these past 3 years since our TV broke, so by recently discovering your mag, I've been now updating again on new animes. I just wish I could buy the other back issues but I have to save my money first since I'm unemployed right now & gonna go back to school next school year.

By the way, about this recent issue, I've scanned it a bit before reading entirely later. I've seen that you have a review of Ansatsu Kyoushitsu anime. I just happened to know that it will have a live action adaptation movie. The lead star is Yamada Ryosuke who is from one of my favorite JPop groups, Hey! Say! JUMP. I hope you'll have time featuring them or my other favorite Arashi, because they're really great! And I also hope you'll feature Jigoku Sensei Nube in your live-action article because that is a one fun series!

Thanks for giving us a chance to read a great mag for us true-blue Otakus! I'm really glad that I've found out about your mag! God bless you all OA staff always!!!

-Riza Mendoza



Von Neo Gozos



Kathlyn Maray



Jason Doringo



Manuel

Thanks! po sa OTAKU ASIA MAGAZINE, kasi dahil dito marami na akong anime na pwedeng panoorin, thanks a lot! Sana maraming anime characters na pwede ulet na ma-drawing !! ... sana mas marami pa mga updates sa mga anime!! at mga how to draw anime etc. Talagang unahan kaming bumili nitong mga magz ninyo. Arigato minna-san

#ALOYSIOUSQUEK_OTAKU_YANDERE



Zeke Arellano

Hi Otaku Asia, I'm so very happy kasi meron ng ganitong kgandang magazine here in Philippines. Gusto ko lang pong magrequest i-cover feature nio po sna ung akamega kill in your next mag and name it assassin's issue atska po ilang araw na po akong hindi mkatulog sa kaiisip kung pano bibilhin ung mga issues na wla pa ako. Thank you very much Otaku Asia.

-Jaime Nemenio



MJ Ibarra

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout? Fanart to showoff? Otaku Asia would love to hear from you!

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ASIA LEADERSHIP FELLOW PROGRAM 2016 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Japan Foundation and the International House of Japan jointly launched the Asia Leadership Fellow Program (ALFP) in 1996. The ALFP seeks to create a close, personal and professional network of public intellectuals in Asia; over 100 Fellows from 17 Asian countries from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds have participated in the program.

This year, under the general theme "Seeking Our Commons in Asia: How Can We Create Visions for the Future" fellows from diverse backgrounds reside in Tokyo for a period of two-months from September 5 to October 28, 2016 and actively engage in group discussions and dialogue with counterparts in Japan from different fields and sectors. ALFP seeks public intellectuals who are deeply rooted in and committed to civil society beyond their own cultural, disciplinary and geopolitical backgrounds.

The ALFP is open to citizens of Northeast-, Southeast- and South Asian countries, aged 35 to 59 years old. Postgraduate degrees are not a prerequisite, but must have a good command of English and have demonstrated outstanding leadership ability or potential in their own professions.

The program will provide each Fellow with the following:

- 1.) Round-trip airfare between Tokyo and the city where the Fellow is based;
- 2.) Daily Allowance to cover accommodations, meals and other incidentals;
- 3.) Medical insurance during the Fellowship in Japan; and
- 4.) Other costs related to group activities set by the Program.

Applicants may submit their application with complete supporting documents not later than Friday, December 25, 2015 to the ALFP Secretariat. For more information, please check the International House of Japan homepage at <http://alfpnetwork.net/en/fellow2/>.



They're COMING BACK to FINISH what they didn't get to do last time, and that is to play for YOU, COMPLETE and LOUD!

Philippine record label Terno Recordings announced that Kyoto-based rock band Tricot will perform in the Philippines on December 26.

Tricot will hold the performance at the 19 East in Muntinlupa, Metro Manila at 9:00 p.m. The performance is part of the band's "Hip Step 'AND' Jump Asia Trip 2015" tour.

This particular Philippines tour is entitled "THE RETURN" as the band's performance last June was shortened because of lack of drummer. Terno Recordings promises special guests and a full band this time around.

Tricot is comprised of Ikumi "Ikkyu" Nakajima, Motoko "Motifour" Kida, and Hiromi "Hirohiro" Sagane (former member Kazutaka Komaki left the band in March 2014), and was founded in 2010. The band has released three singles and two albums. Their latest album, A N D, shipped on March 18.

Mark the date... support acts to be announced soon. Pls email info@ternorecordings.com for details re tickets



OTAKUGOODIES



MAETEL

Series: Galaxy Express 999
 Product: Pre-painted Figure
 Height: 18.00 cm
 Scale: 1/8
 available at:
www.e2046.com

review by John Robert Lim

Maetel as a character represents the strong mother figure that we're all familiar with. As much as she is beautiful and well-mannered, she is also a very powerful being capable of dealing just retribution to those who threaten her and Tetsuro. Won't that be someone you would like by your side? Look no further than this real life form of Maetel made by its masterful creators for a relatively cheap price. This figure is a great piece to have in your collection, especially for fans of the Galaxy Express 999 series.

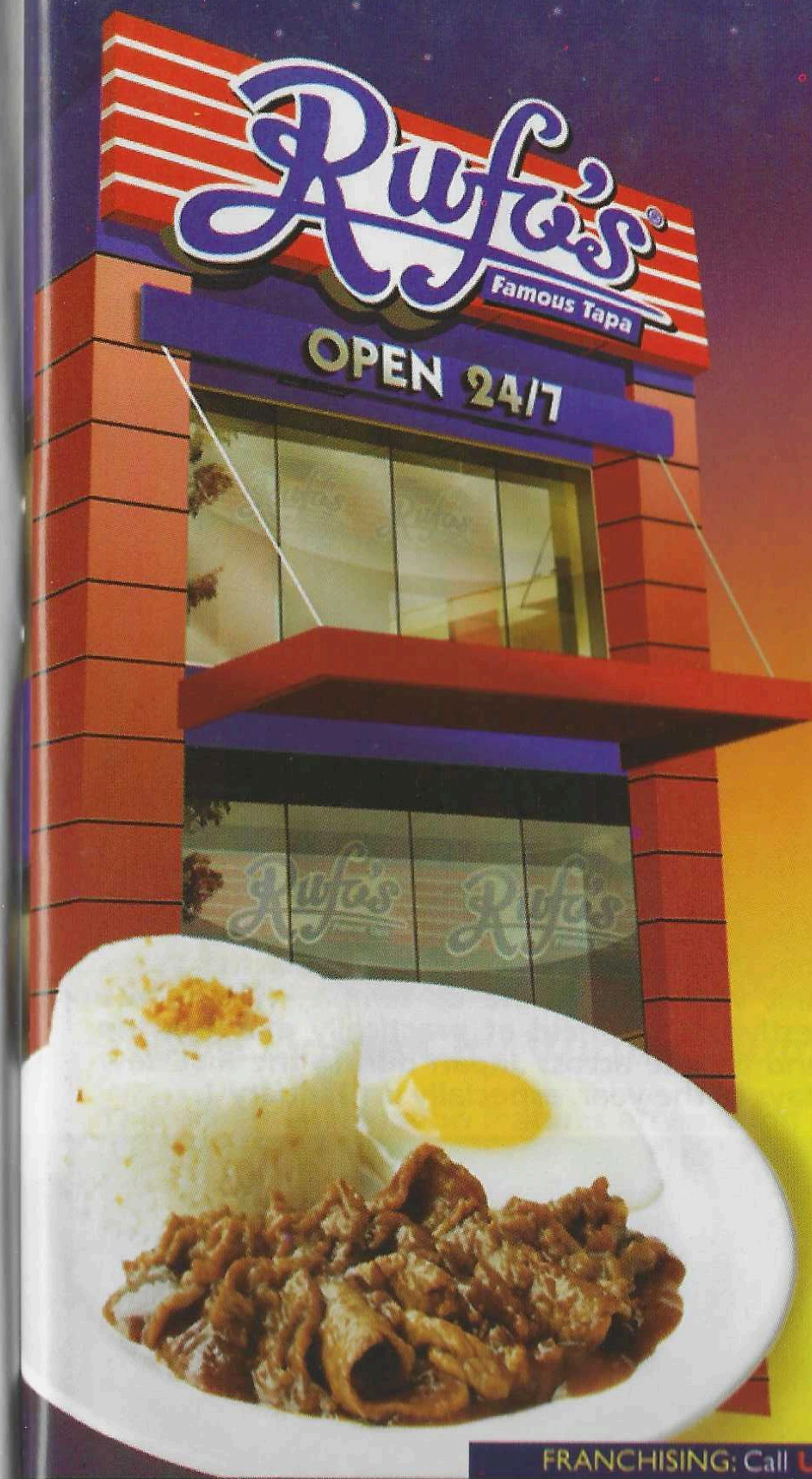


5/5 Sculpting – The sculpting is beautiful and the level of detail is top-notch. Major props to the design of the hat, the props, and the dress, which is where you can clearly see the creators' meticulous attention to detail.

5/5 Paint – Painting looks good. The colors don't look faded at all and contrast well with each other. This is made more evident by looking at the hair and skin.

4/5 Durability – It is reportedly a bit frail and some bits of paint have apparently been damaged from drops. Nevertheless, the figure was well-packed and well-secured in transit.

An investment that earns 24/7.



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WINTER HOLIDAY IN JAPAN

THINGS TO DO

The holidays give us time to visit places, provinces and families. It is also the time to celebrate the season in a new way. One is to experience how the Japanese does it.

If you scour the internet, it would have blogs and articles about how weird it is in Japan, a non-Catholic country to celebrate Christmas so enthusiastically. Well, they are not wrong. It is weird. However, you have to understand that they are celebrating the event of giving rather than the birth of Christ.

That aside, Christmas in Japan is the most exciting you can get. Even more because sometimes, it would snow. *Wala nyan sa Pinas.*

Things to remember:

1. CLOSED

Many tourist attractions, stores, restaurants, banks and ATMs are closed on one or more days between December 29 and January 4, limiting your sightseeing, shopping and dining choices, especially on January 1.

People are going to be with a special someone at home, eating Christmas cake or KFC.

2. MORE TOURISTS

Despite the closures, travel activity becomes intense from December 29 to December 31 when many urbanites leave the big cities (especially Tokyo) and from January 2 to January 4 when they return home. As a result, trains, airports and expressways get very congested.



Hatsumode

If you are in Japan during New Year, you can join the crowds doing hatsumode, the year's first visit to a shrine or temple. Hatsumode festivities are held at practically every shrine and temple across Japan during the first few days of the year, especially on January 1.



Emperor's New Year's Greeting

On January 2, the Emperor makes several public appearances at the Tokyo Imperial Palace. It is one of only two occasions during the year, when the inner grounds of the palace are opened to the public. (The other is the Emperor's birthday on December 23.)

images from muza-chan.net

PLACES TO BE



Roppongi Hills Artelligent Christmas 2015

Each year, the 400m of Keyakizaka behind Roppongi Hills becomes one of the most popular couples' strolling spots with brilliant blue LEDs decorating the trees and Tokyo Tower providing the perfect backdrop.

This year, the lighting scheme promises to be a little different. At two 'secret' locations the lights will change from their "snow and blue" theme to a "candle and red" colour.



Tokyo Dome City Winter Illumination

This winter illumination features an amazing 2,000,000 LEDs draped over structures both temporary and permanent at Tokyo Dome City. The theme of this year's illumination is "Promenade of Light". In collaboration with the "Space Museum TeNO" which opened in summer, there will be an "Ultraman Road". In addition, there will be Fantasy Cosmos area with black light illumination and a 6 metre tall Christmas tree.

It runs for a full three months so there's no hurry to go and see it.



Yebisu Garden Place - Baccarat Eternal Lights

You will admire one of the largest chandeliers in the world, 5 meters tall and 3 meters wide, made by Baccarat Company from 8472 crystal parts.

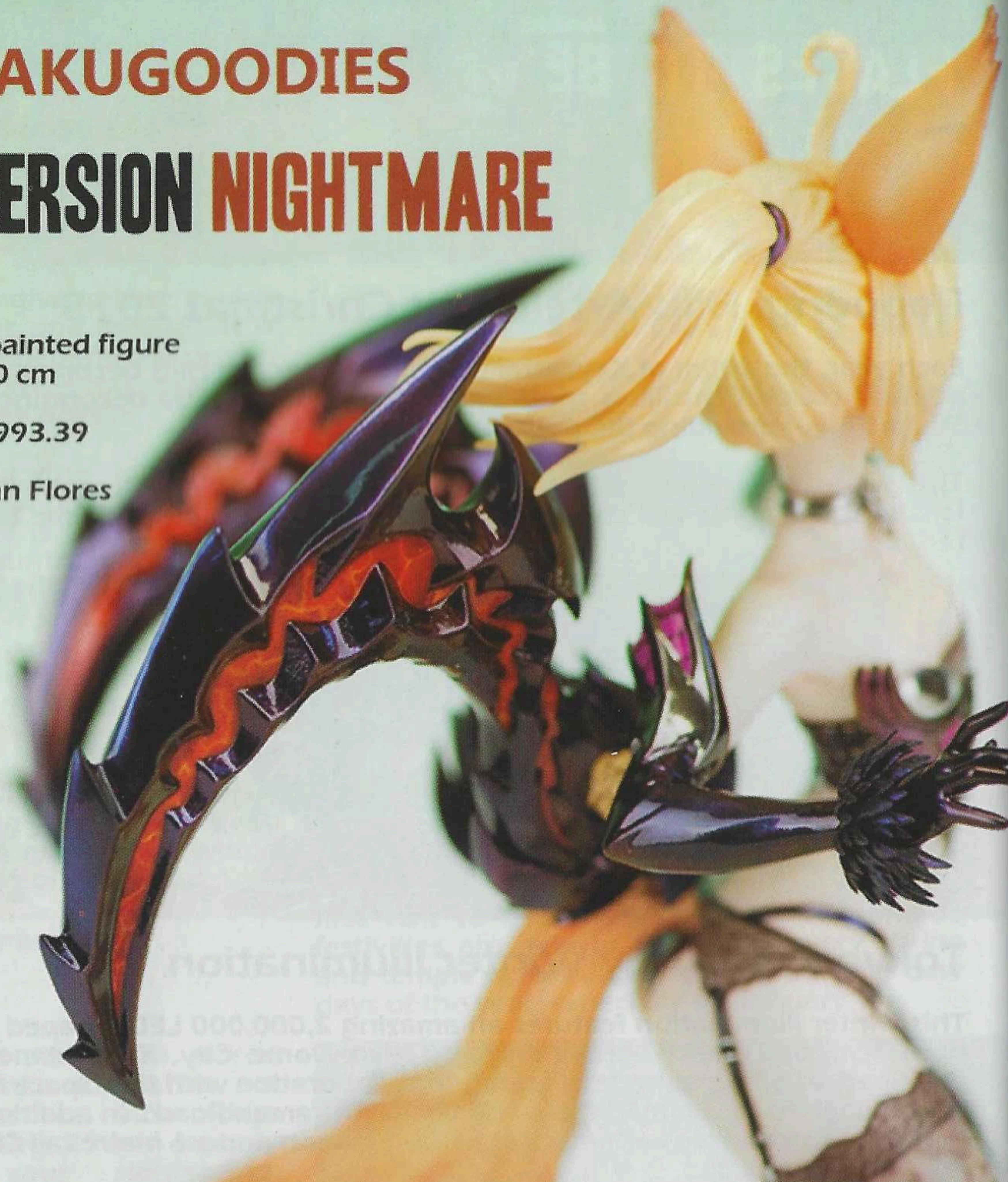


OTAKUGOODIES

ELIN VERSION NIGHTMARE

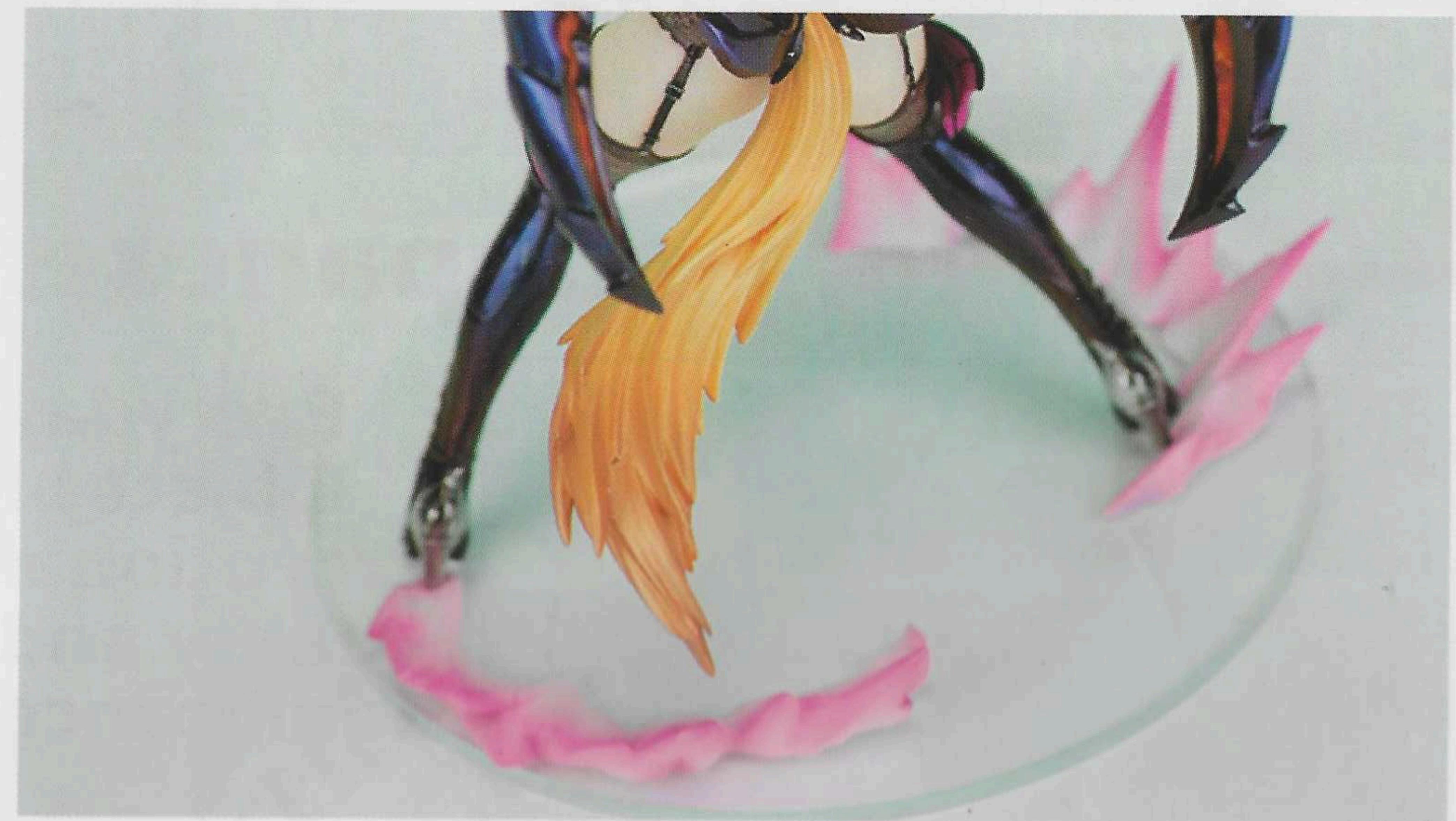
Series: TERA
Product: Unpainted figure
Height: 24.00 cm
Parts: 28
Price: PHP 1,993.39

review by Ann Flores



Much like the diwata of Philippine literature, Elins are guardians of nature. Among the seven races found in TERA (The Exiled Realm of Arborea), a 3D fantasy themed multiplayer online role-playing game developed by Bluehole Studio and released in 2011, the elins vow to combat any force that is against nature.

This figure catches the "foxy" side of the elins as she appears complete with the ears and tails in a seductive pose and outfit. The only downside of this one is that it does not come pre-painted, but the expected outcome should have a dark shimmer on most of the weapon and outfit to give off a look that suits the theme of "nightmare."



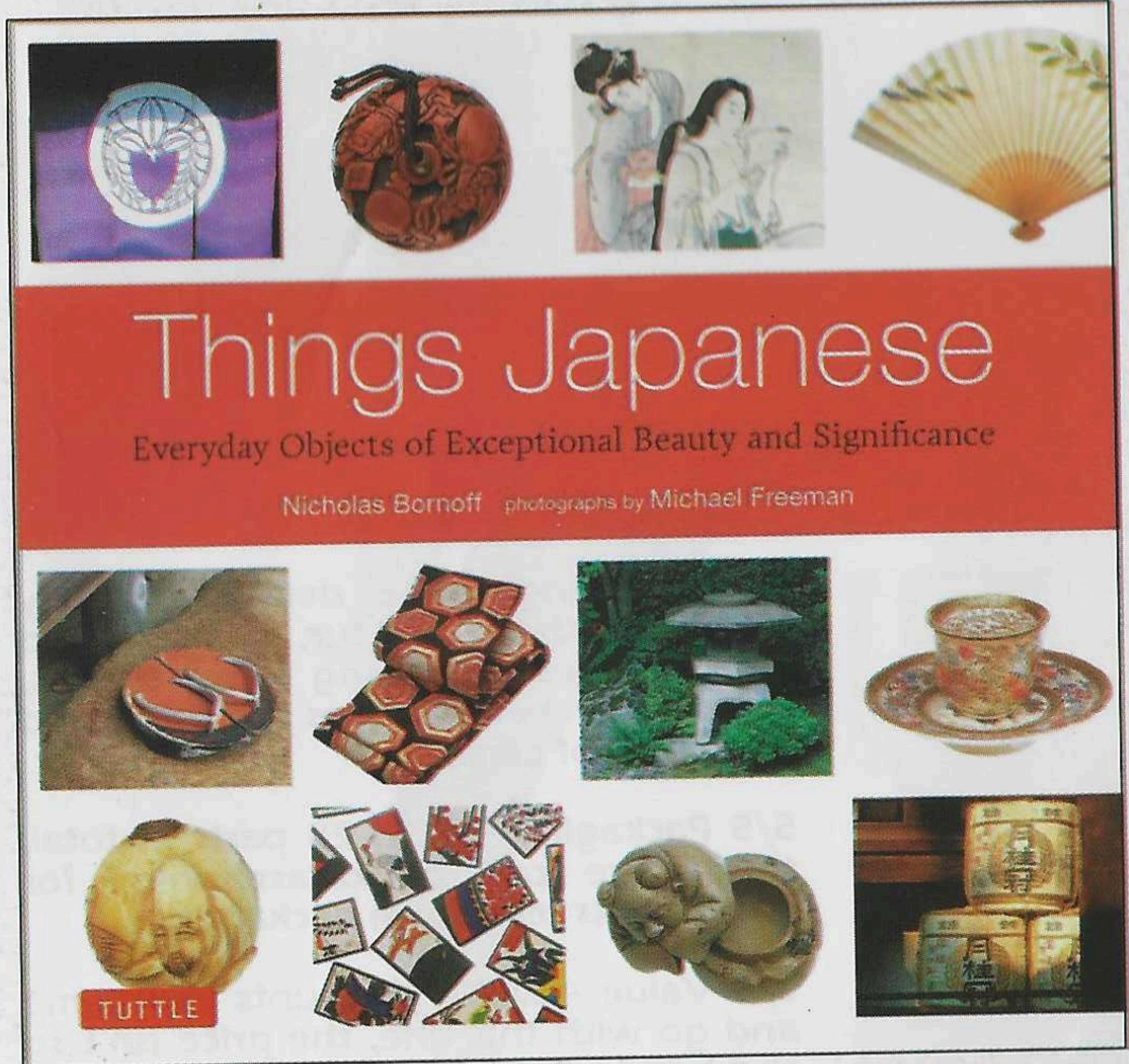
5/5 Sculpting - The details are very intricate with the hair, fur, her outfit, and weapon. Despite having fewer clothes, the sculpting emphasizes the grace and fierceness of Elins.

5/5 Packaging - With 28 parts in total, the figure can be disassembled for ensuring its security in packaging.

5/5 Value - While discounts can come and go with this one, the price isn't so bad with a figure detailing a good dark shade of the elins.



— Things Japanese:



Things Japanese

Everyday Objects of Exceptional Beauty and Significance

Nicholas Bornoff photographs by Michael Freeman

**Everyday
Object of
Exceptional
Beauty and
Significance**

**Author:
Nicholas Bornoff**

**Photos by:
Michael Freeman**

SRP: PHP 795

Tuttle Publishing

Every culture has something that is exclusively theirs. With *Things Japanese*, we get to see and know about numerous objects that are uniquely Japanese.

Have you been curious about objects that the characters use that we see in Japanese anime or movies? *Things Japanese: Everyday Objects of Extraordinary Beauty and Significance* might be able to answer your curiosities! With over 60 traditional objects to discover, *Things Japanese* is a must have for any fan of Japanese culture. Along with astonishing full color photographs are good details about the item like its historical significance and its usage in everyday Japanese life. Each item in the book has a different story in them and with these; we will get to know a little bit of Japan's rich history. The items are listed both in their Japanese and their English names, making your learning session easier to understand.

Things Japanese is written by **Nicholas Bornoff**, a film critic in Japan for a decade with article contributions about Japanese culture to various English language magazines in the Asian Region.

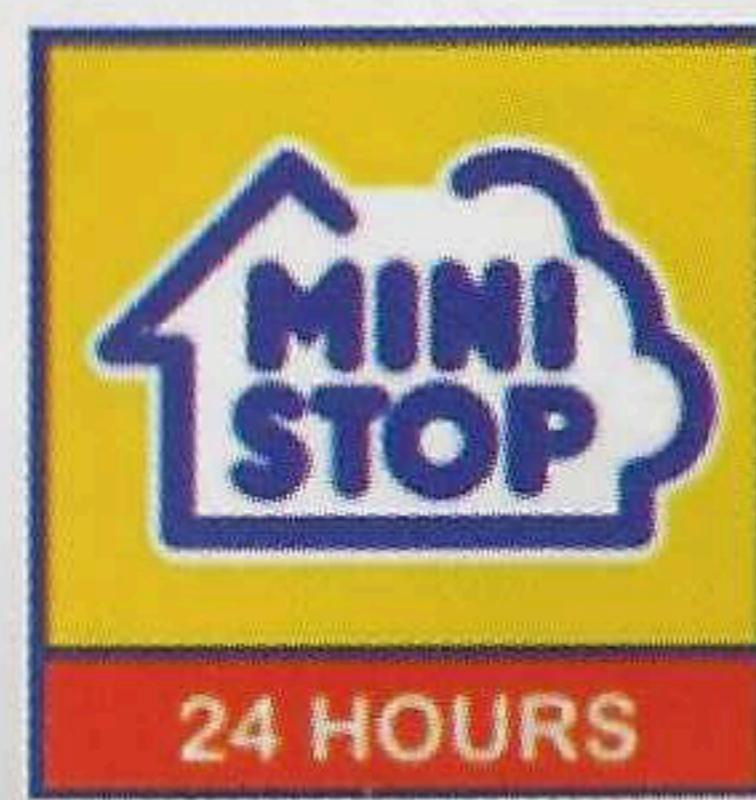
This book is not only beautiful in the visuals we see but also in the vast knowledge we'll learn makes it a very interesting book to get our hands on to. It is a valuable asset for any Japanese culture enthusiast or anime fan!



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OTAKU LIFE HACKS

UMARU REINDEER HAT TUTORIAL

by Yani



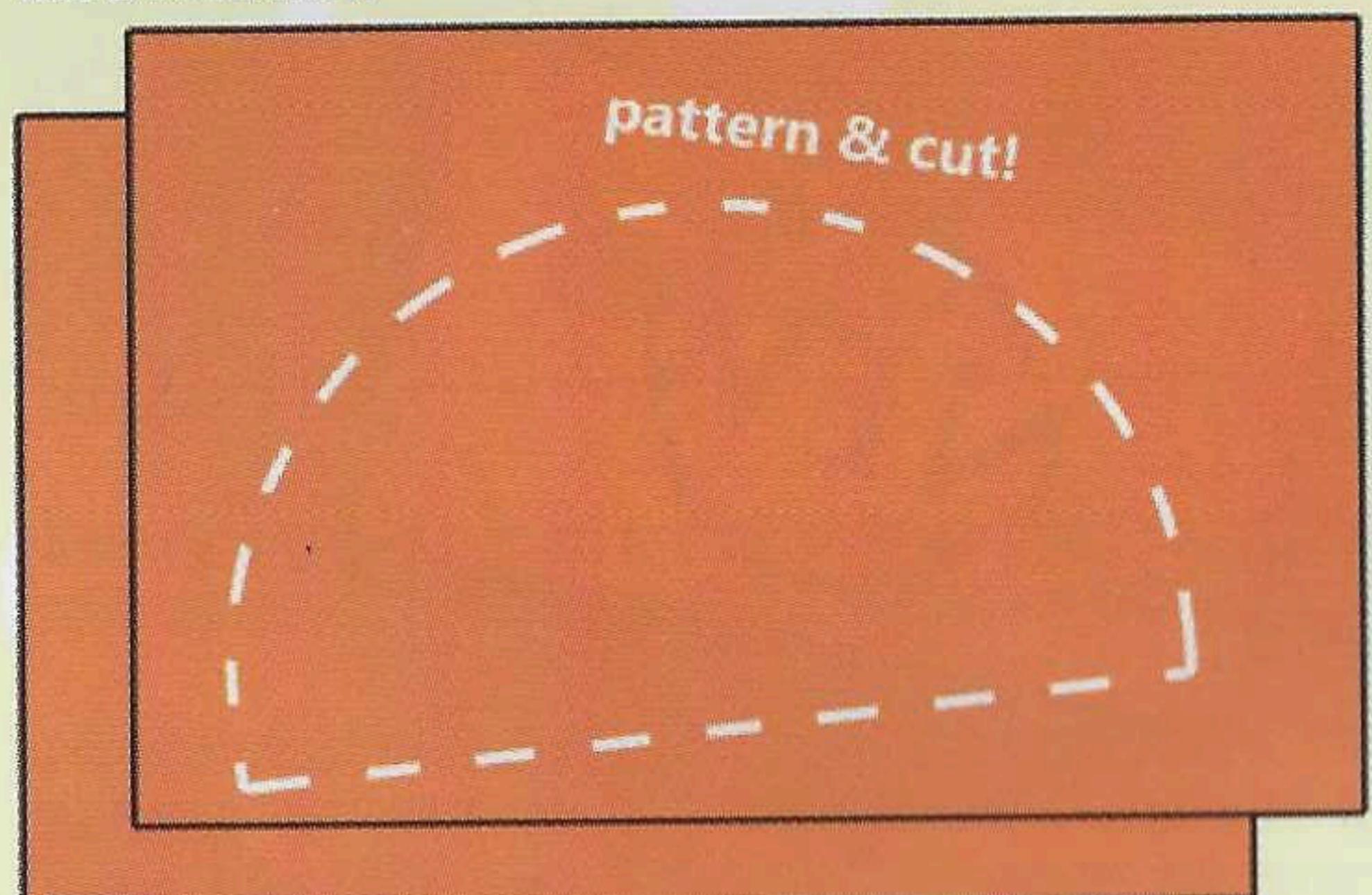
Materials needed:

- Orange fabric of your choice
- white and brown felt cloth
- orange, white and Black thread
- small black button
- stuffing (the thing used in pillows)
- scissors
- needle
- pins

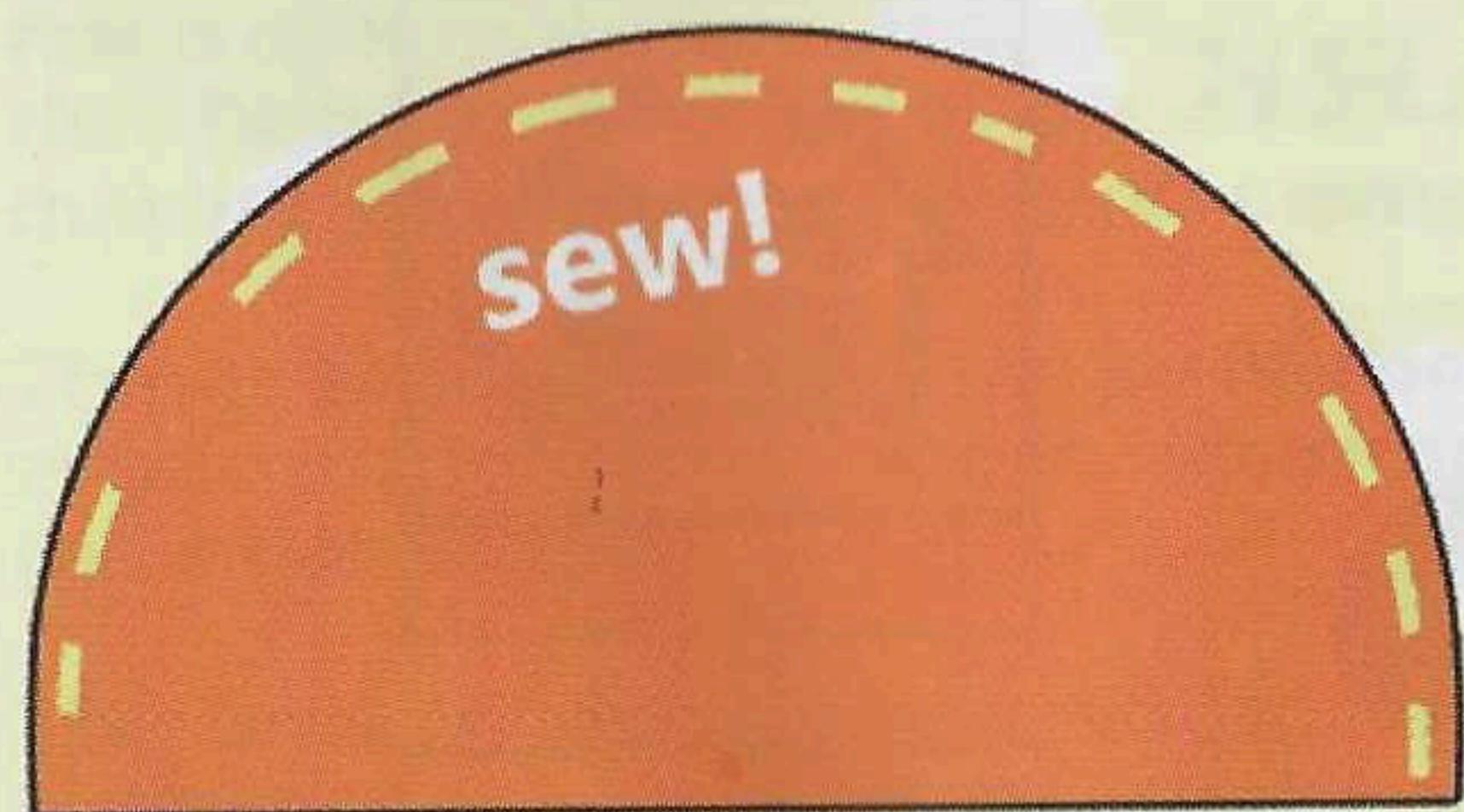


INSTRUCTIONS:

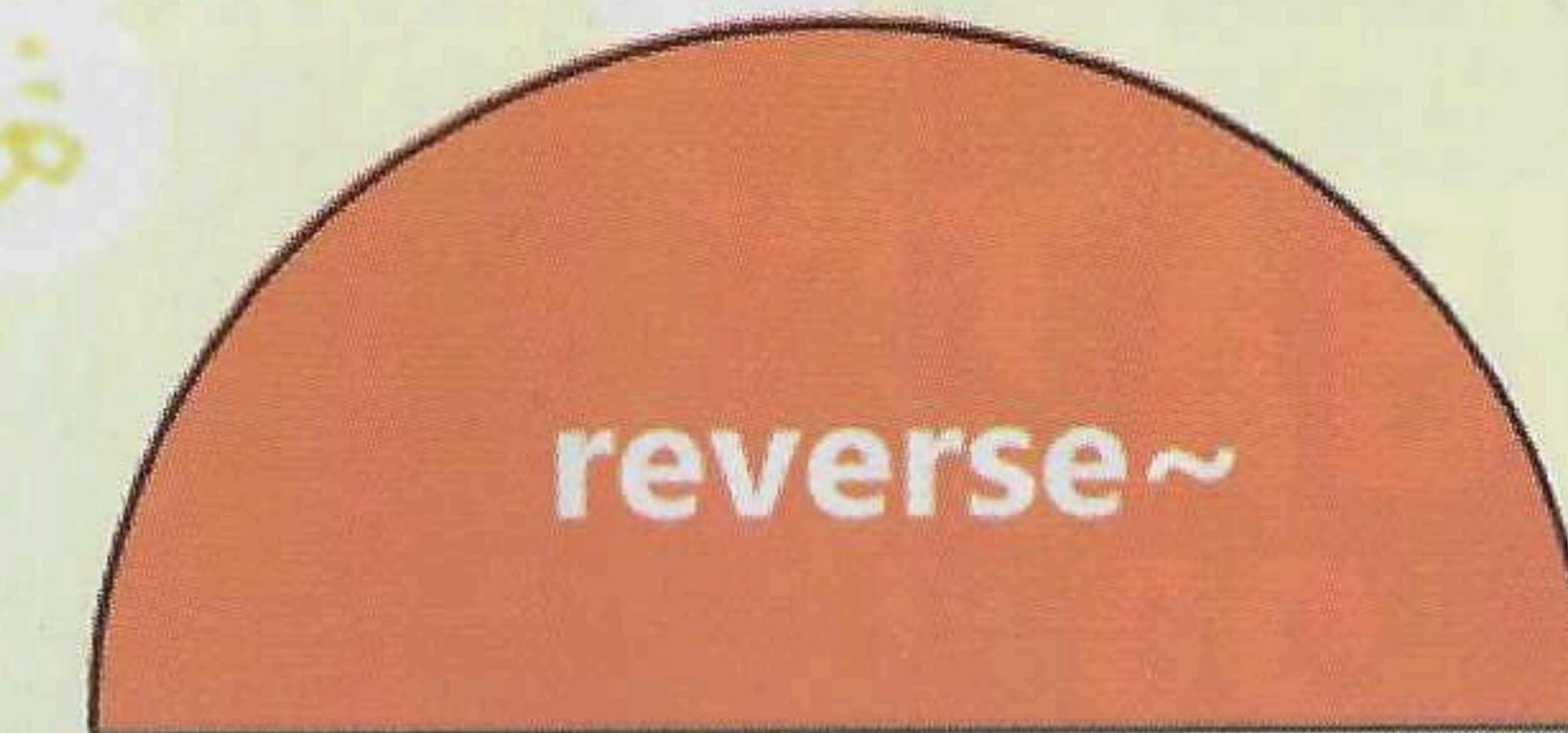
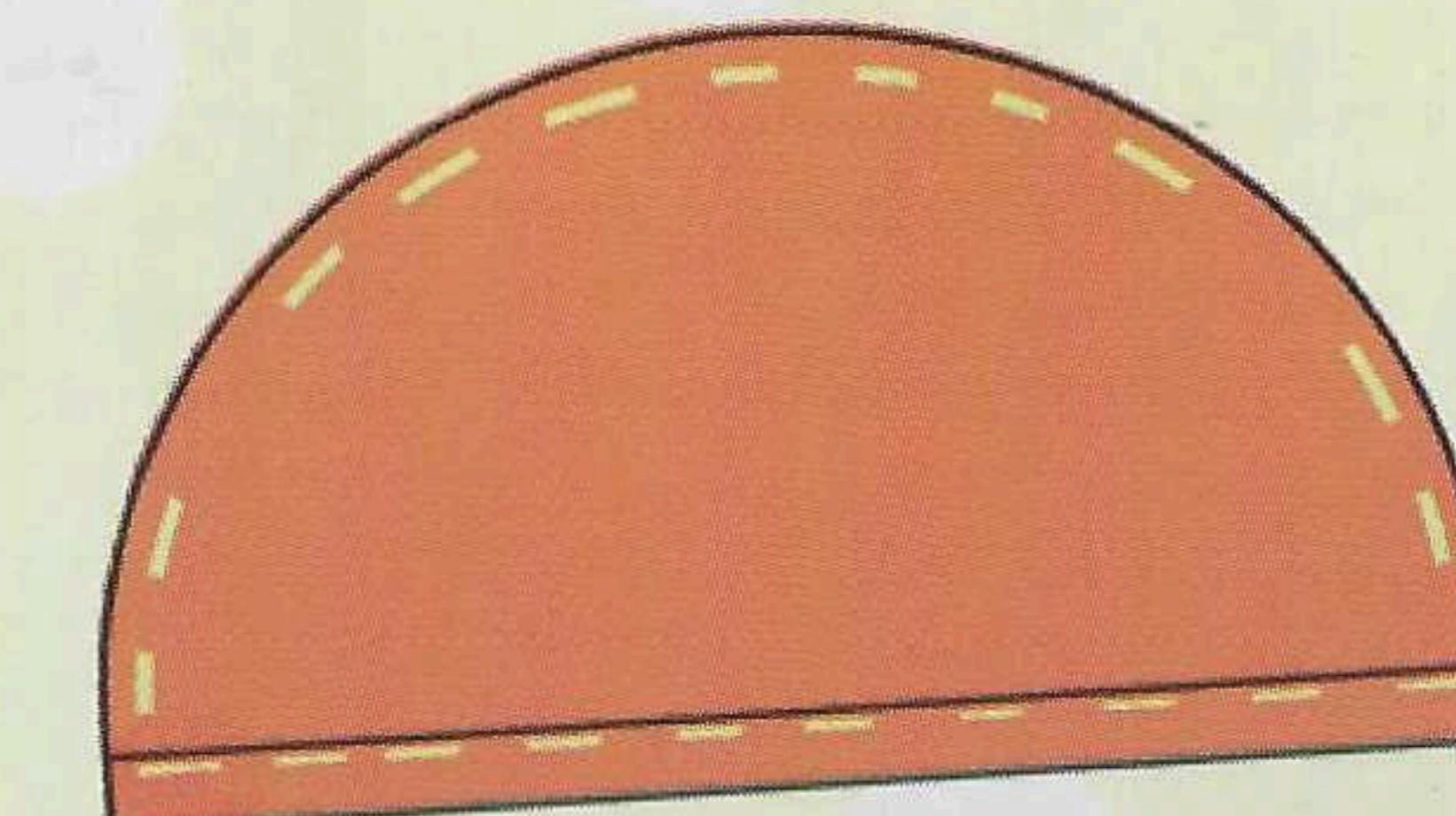
1. Cut the orange fabric onto this pattern (see image below). Make sure that the length below must fit your head: measure the size of your head. Divide it by two then add allowance according on how loose you want it to be and add half inch for the sewing allowance.



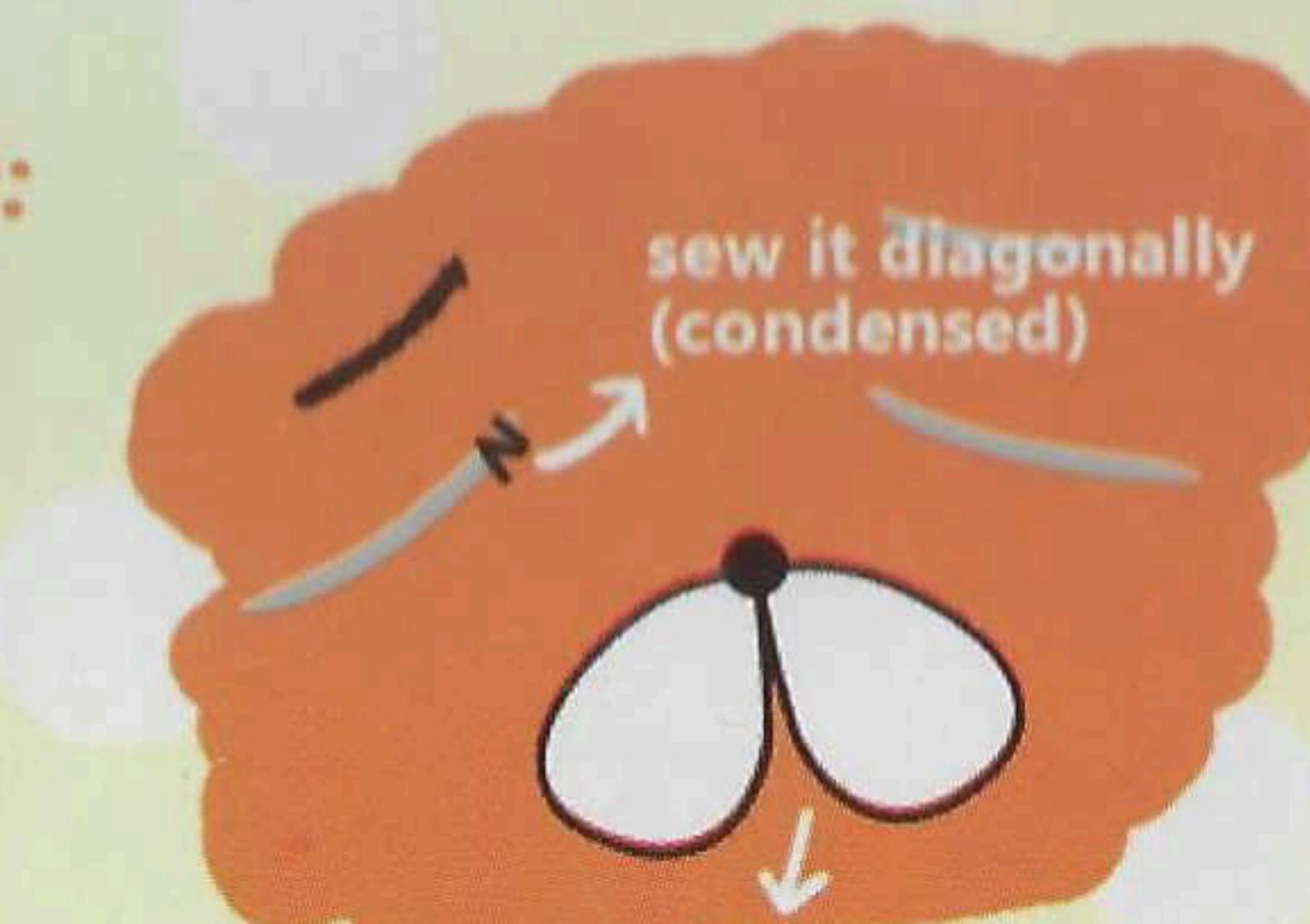
2. Sew the two pairs of orange fabric. Makes sure to leave two space for the reindeer horns.



3. Fold the lower part then sew. Reverse the hat. Now, we will work on the face part.

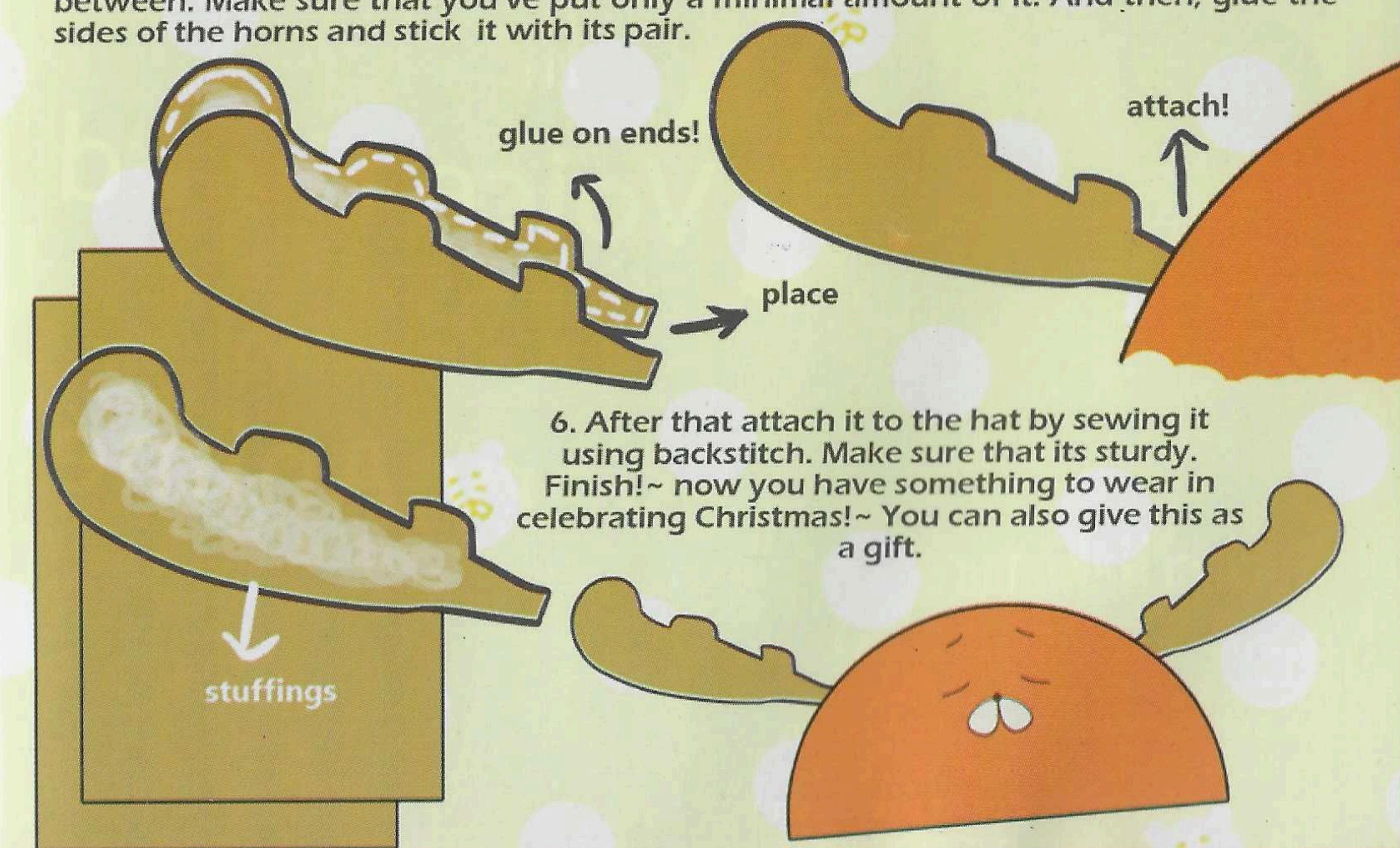


4. Get a embossed glue then draw the eyes and the eyebrows of the hamster. Let it dry. Then sew it similar on the picture below. For the lower face part, cut the white felt cloth similar to the image below then stick it using a fabric glue. Sew a button for the nose afterwards.



cut the felt cloth like this and then glue it on the fabric. For the nose, use a small black button.

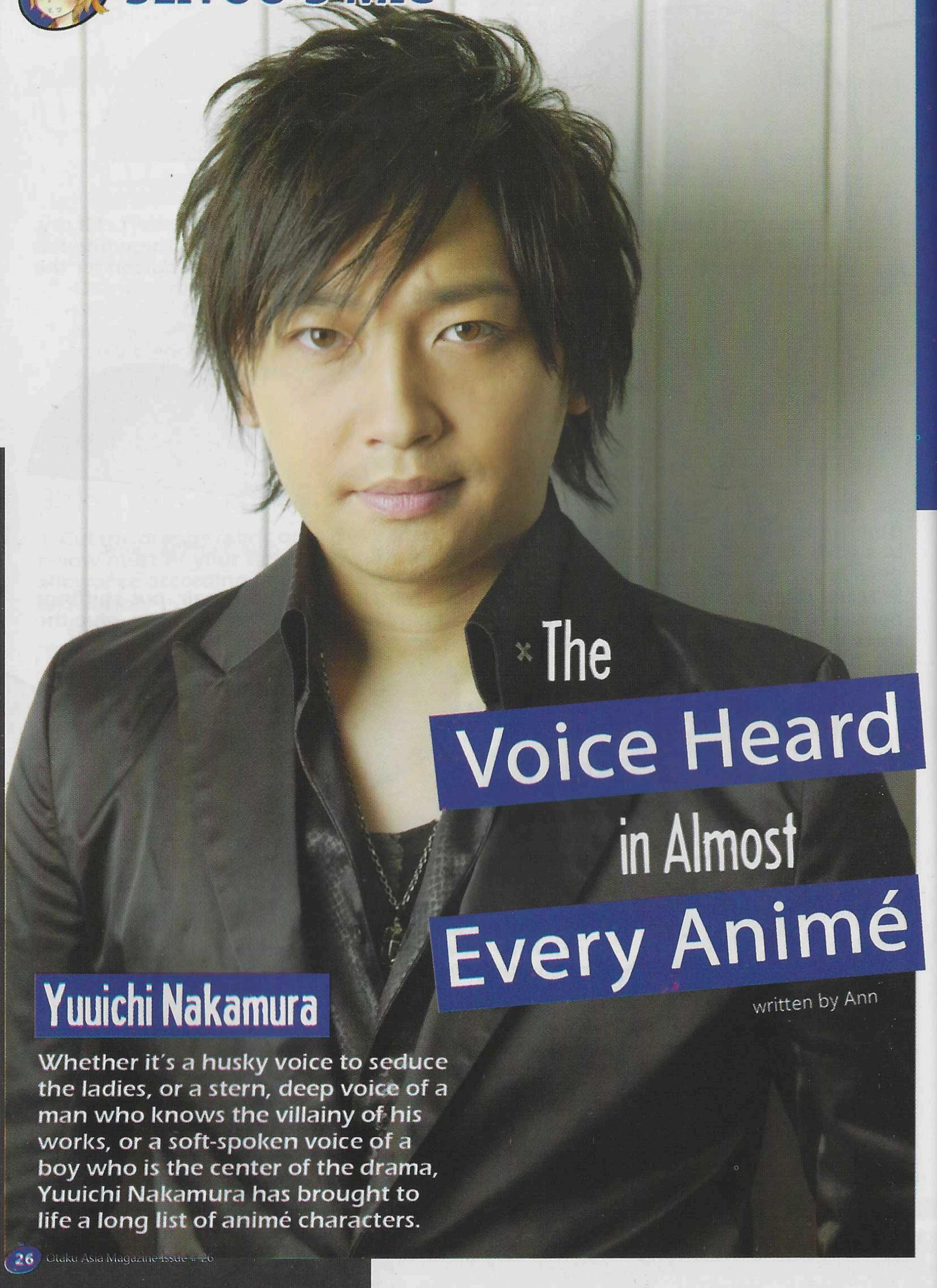
5. Make four reindeer horns using the brown felt cloth. On each pair, put stuffings between. Make sure that you've put only a minimal amount of it. And then, glue the sides of the horns and stick it with its pair.



6. After that attach it to the hat by sewing it using backstitch. Make sure that its sturdy. Finish!~ now you have something to wear in celebrating Christmas!~ You can also give this as a gift.



SEIYUU'S MIC



Yuuichi Nakamura

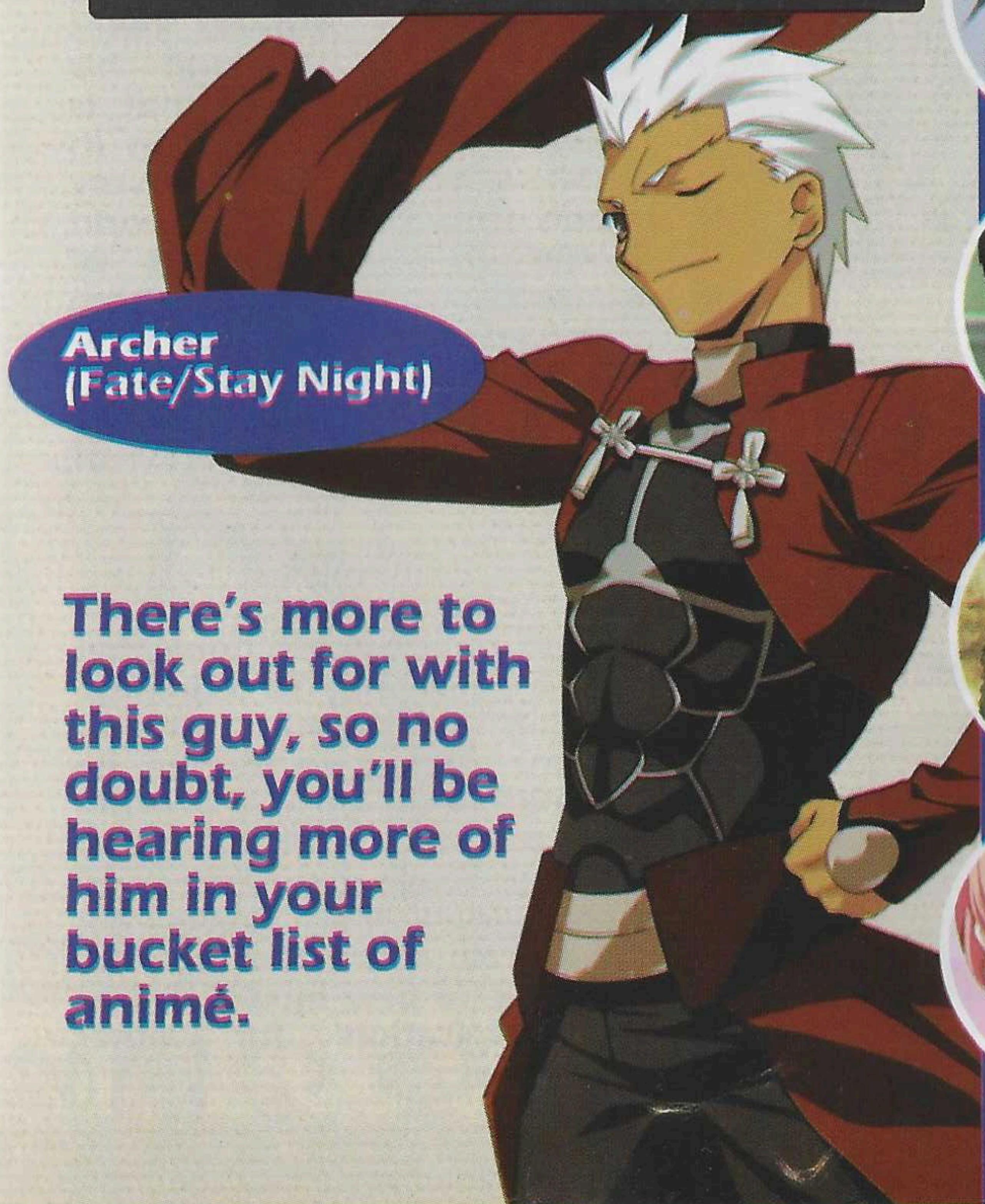
Whether it's a husky voice to seduce the ladies, or a stern, deep voice of a man who knows the villainy of his works, or a soft-spoken voice of a boy who is the center of the drama, Yuuichi Nakamura has brought to life a long list of animé characters.

The Voice Heard in Almost Every Animé

written by Ann

Born in February 20, 1980 in Kagawa Prefecture, he began his pursuit of a career as a seiyuu in 2000. Since then, he has flourished with Sigma Seven, a Japanese talent management. While he can be confused with an actor with the same name, Nakamura makes his own name in a different industry. Nakamura's voice range gives way to a strong variety of roles from drama, comedy, and action. On the Internet, he's even typecasted with characters who strip off shirts for the ladies, but undoubtedly, his voice can definitely grab attention. Some of his notable roles are Tomoya Okazaki in *Clannad*, *Gray Fullbuster* in *Fairy Tail*, *Alto Saotome* in *Macross Frontier*, *Ultraman X* in *Ultraman X*, *Ikuto Tsukiyomi* in *Shugo Chara!*, and *Oreki Hotaro* in *Hyōka*.

From the pictures that can be found of Nakamura, he would seem to have a very strong personality, but a fun fact is that he has a soft spot for cats and is really, really close to Tomokazu Sugita, a fellow seiyuu. A wonderful voice and an intriguing background certainly make many otakus craving to know more.



MORE

NOTABLE ROLES



Yoshiyuki Hatori
(*Sekaiichi Hatsukoi*)



Greed
(*Fullmetal Alchemist*)



Muramasa
(*Bleach*)



Ryu Sanada
(*Kimi ni Todoke*)



Grizzly
(*Polar Bear's Cafe*)



Tsukimiya Ringo
(*Utanoya Prince-sama*)



HOOKED BOOK

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
CLYDE PRESTOWITZ

JAPAN RESTORED

HOW JAPAN CAN REINVENT ITSELF
AND WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT
FOR AMERICA AND THE WORLD



JAPAN RESTORED:

**How Japan Can Reinvent
Itself and Why This is
Important for America
and the World**

Author: Clyde Prestowitz
SRP: PHP 1125
Tuttle Publishing

article by Ren

Everyone has their dreams and everyone wants to be successful in it. Though along the way, one will meet ups and downs so better start now, be ready and strive to be successful as how Clyde Prestowitz envision Japan in the future!

Japan Restored is written by Clyde Prestowitz, the founder and the President of **Economic Strategy Institute** in Washington. Back in 1979, there was a book written by **Ezra Vogel** (who wrote *Japan as Number One: Lessons for America*) that points out Japan is surpassing America as world economic leader. The "bubble era" of Japan back in the 80's was booming until in the 90's when this bubble bursted and marks the decline of Japan. Now Clyde Prestowitz takes Vogel's baton through his book *Japan Restored* that is about the vision of Japan in 2050 wherein the recovery made the country the world leader in every aspect of human endeavor. From different aspects and parts of the country, Prestowitz draws a fascinating blueprint that will help the future success of Japan.

A hard to put down book that appeals not only to Japanese culture enthusiasts but to anyone who wants to be fascinated on how a country can reinvent itself. Reading through it will make one hope that Japan will follow his advice to make the country continue to be a model and be an inspiration for other countries.

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#CON-IN-FOCUS



Rem Roca from Cagayan de Oro as Star Guardian Lux cosplayer awarded as Cosplay Mania Cup Grand Champion

Cosplay.ph presents once again the biggest annual cosplay convention in the Philippines that we've all been waiting for:
Cosplay Mania 2015.

Held last October 3-4, Cosplay Mania 2015 undoubtedly gathered thousands of anime enthusiasts at the Function Halls 2-5 and Meeting Rooms 2-9 of SMX Convention Center Manila, SM Mall of Asia. For two days particularly in the afternoon to evening, inside and outside the halls were crowded and festive.

Like last year, Bronze, Silver, and Gold tickets were offered to con-goers, providing more options on how we would like to enjoy the event. Exhibits Hall (Hall Ex) and Special Performance Hall (Hall S) were the two main halls accessible depending on the ticket we availed.

Hall Ex, which was open to all ticketholders, was where over a hundred local or overseas exhibitors showcased all types of merchandises and events. Lots of freebies were also given away, including magazines, pins, posters, game installers and potato chips! Just by going around the booths, choosing among the merchandise we would buy, taking a picture of the cosplayers we would bump to, would let us already enjoy the whole day.



Empty stomach was not a problem as food booths stood on both ends of Hall Ex offering a variety of foods from local to Japanese inspired delicacies like ramen, onigiri, okonomiyaki and takoyaki.

Hall Ex also has a stage area where we watched Yoshinoya's Gyudon Eating Contests plus Marshmallow Relay, Dance Performances by Seishun Kakumei and Sugar48 and the first ever Asia Karaoke Nodojiman Philippine Leg organized by NHK Enterprises and Daiichi Kosho. All contestants were talented singers and everyone in the audience enjoyed listening to them, but eventually one had stood taller than everyone. The champion together with the special awardee are therefore invited to join the finals in Tokyo on March 2016.

**Asia Karaoke Nodojiman Philippine Leg WINNER:
Maychell Adora
Special Award:
Jhona Sacramento**

Meanwhile, Hall S was where the exciting cosplay competitions, guest performances and interviews were held. All silver and gold ticketholders were allowed in there, but after the awarding of competitions at 6PM, only those who availed gold tickets had access for the last and most fun part of Hall S: the Japanese Anime Music or JAM.

International guests include Chinese couple cosplayer Hana and Baozi, Malaysian Cosplayer Ying Tze, Japanese singers and voice actresses Aya Ikeda, Itsuki Akira and also Pile who is the voice behind Maki Nishiniko of Love Live! School Idol Project, J-rock band Loverin Tamburin, Japanese cosplayer Kaname who came again this year, and wrestler, heavy metal singer and awesome crossdresser Ladybeard. All guests granted answers to questions asked by fans in their respective interviews.

Image top to bottom: Big Boys Toy Store Booth, Yu-Gi-Oh! Card Game booth, gyudon eating contest, Hana and Baozi interview

As the fans were all lively and responsive, all guests repeatedly thanked the audience for their warm support. Majority of the guests were fresh and new for Cosplay Mania, and a positive remark of wanting to come back in the Philippines next time has been heard from them.

Day 1 JAM performers were Moonspeak featuring Kaname, Loverin Tamburin, Aya Ikeda and Ladybeard. Everyone was so full of energy from start to finish, shouting fan chants and cheers all the time. But the last performance by Ladybeard made everyone burn even more. With his heavy metal singing (his version of Bieber's Baby was awesome!), he hyped up the crowd to go wild; even Kaname who stayed with the audience was spotted having as much fun.

As if serving only as a prelude, Day 1 JAM was far exceeded by Day 2 just based on the number of attendees. Loverin Tamburin once again joined the feast, followed by Itsuki Akira and finally by Pile. As Pile started singing Love Live's theme songs, the crowd's jumping and shouting reverberates even in Hall Ex while when in Hall S, we couldn't help but join all the cheers and singing.



After the event, Loverin Tamburin, Pile, Kaname, Hana and Baozi, and Ying Tze posted on their official pages some of their pictures in Cosplay Mania while saying thanks to all the Filipino fans who went to see them both in Hall S and the exclusive Meet and Greet sessions held at the meeting rooms.

Definitely Cosplay Mania wouldn't be without the comprehensive cosplay competitions. This year's competitions include Cosplay Solo Showdown, whose winners competed for the Cosplay Mania Cup in the second day, and Cosplay Team Battle that were both held on the first day. Meanwhile, Cosplay.ph also held Cosplay Mania Roadshows in different places of the country beforehand to gather the most talented cosplayers around the republic, then letting each regions' representatives clash on the Cosplay Torch All Stars of second day of Cosplay Mania 2015.



TORCH All-Stars

page 32: (top) Team Risk Taker, (bottom) Team CGA Yuushi
page 33: Grand Champion of TORCH All Stars 2015, Team Ban X Kai. They won the right to represent the Philippines at AFA Singapore later this year.

Spectators were amazed with the well-made costumes displayed plus the creative characterizations. These are all for choosing our nationwide representative of the upcoming Anime Festival Asia's Regional Cosplay Championship to be held in Singapore.

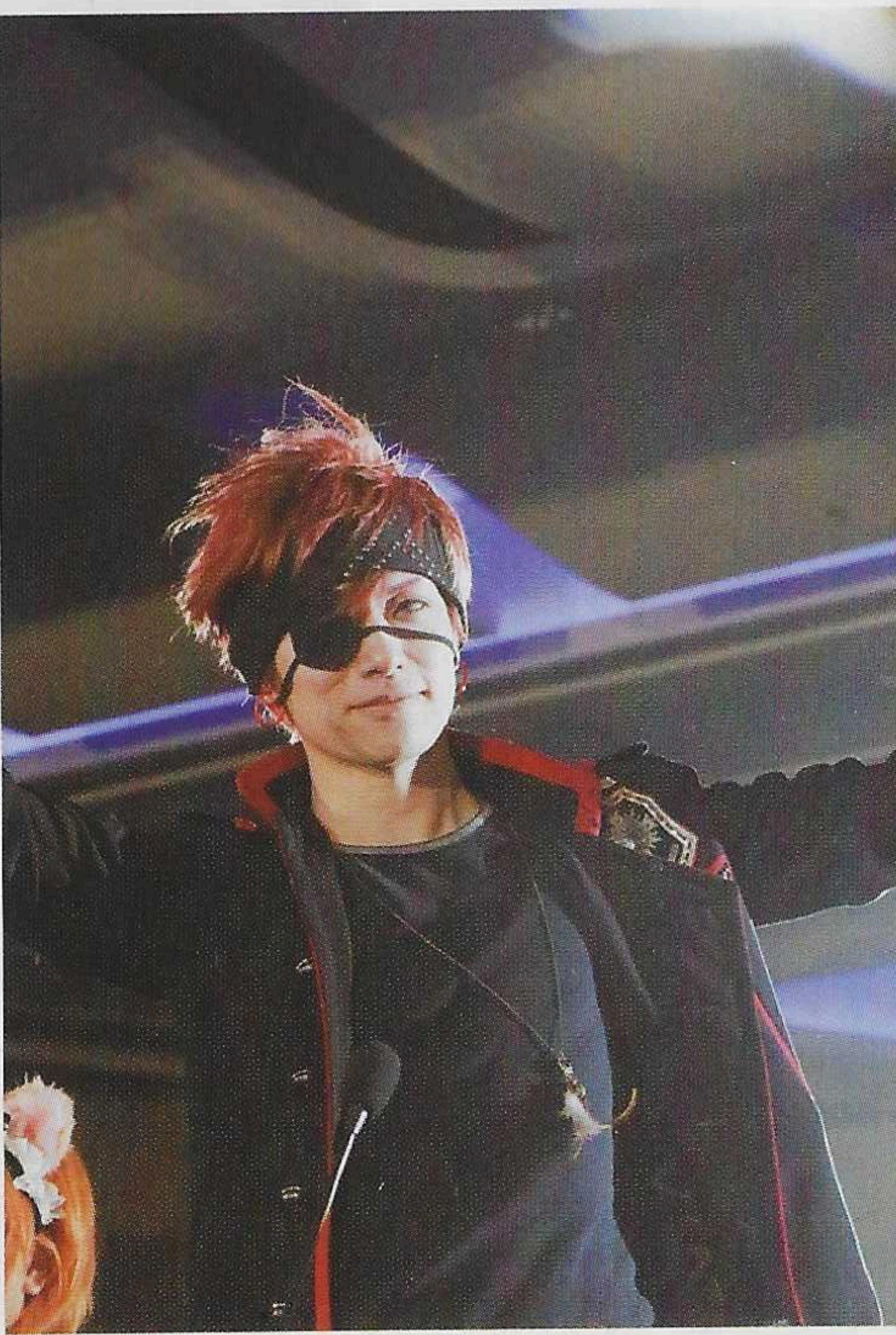
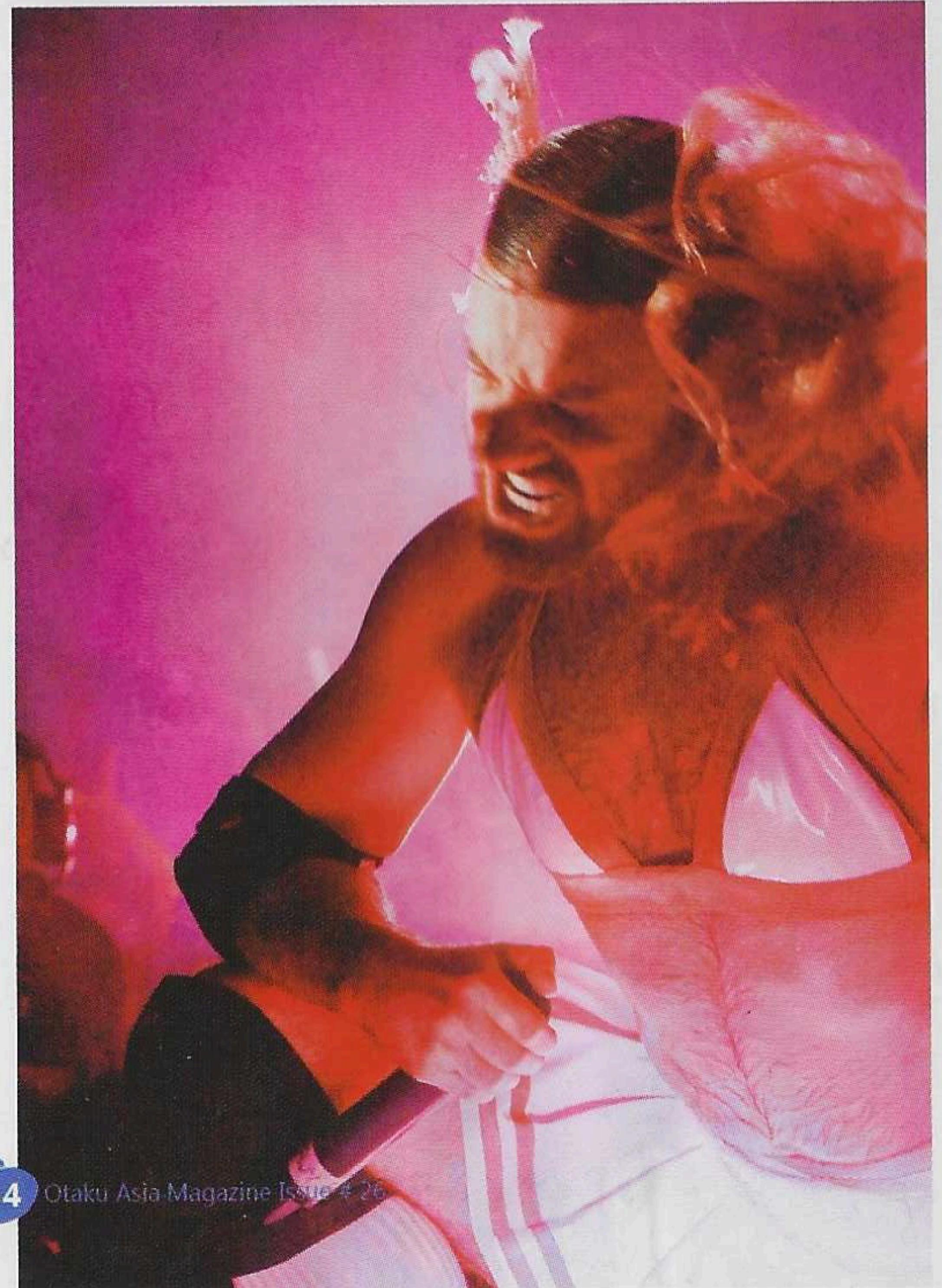
Cosplay Mania surely is one of the best things we can experience as con-goers, and anime enthusiasts should never miss it as every year this event has always something new for us.

Cosplay Mania's official page has announced right away that the schedule for Cosplay Mania 2016 will be on October 2-3, 2016. See you next year Otafans!



images: Aya of Loverin Tamburin, Aya Ikeda, Australian-born wrestler and Japanese performer: Lady Beard and Japanese cosplayer, Kaname.

shots by TRI EYE



2015 Otaku Year

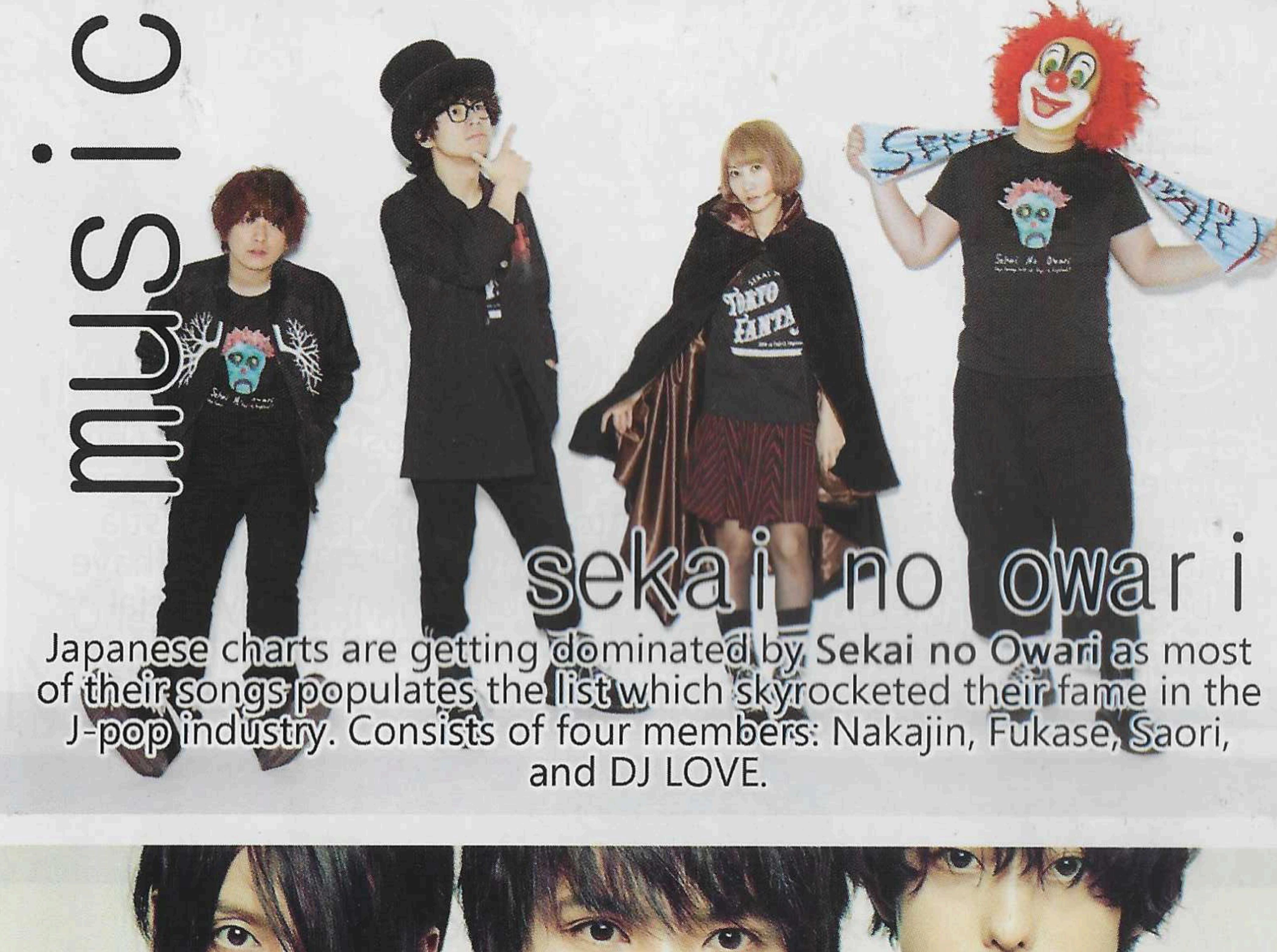
winter #1 kantai collection

Fully weaponized warships from the days of old were reincarnated and now embodies the souls of young girls would surely fulfill any admiral's dream. Kantai Collection or KanColle is adapted from the popular web browser game with a huge fanbase.

Another year had lapsed within the Otaku realm as we now welcome a new year filled with unlimited potential. Before we venture towards a new adventure, we shall first engage in a brief respite to refresh our memories and accompany us along with a series of flashbacks about some of the best things and happenings that occurred during the year of 2015 – otaku edition.

Laugh or cry, let us now begin our trip down memory lane and retrace the steps that led us to where we currently stand.

article by Mikelle Abubo
layout by Kent Diamante



Japanese charts are getting dominated by *Sekai no Owari* as most of their songs populates the list which skyrocketed their fame in the J-pop industry. Consists of four members: Nakajin, Fukase, Saori, and DJ LOVE.



Unison Square Garden

Most Japanese rhythm games available in arcades contain some of their songs which make Unison Square Garden as one of the most well known J-pop artist of the year.



μ's

μ's is still going strong and the already bright flames grew massive along with the premiere of *Love Live! The School Idol Movie*.

winter #2 saekano

What would you feel if you were surrounded by genuinely talented individuals who make you question your worth? *Saekano* is so far one of the best romcom light novels which have been adapted into an anime series and was also well received by fans.

game

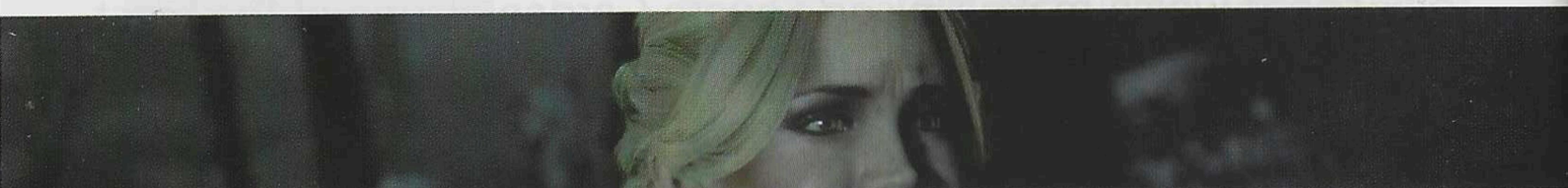
Fate Grand Order

Fate Grand Order has surpassed some of the most popular mobile games available in many play stores. It rapidly rose to the top as one of the most downloaded and top grossing games in just a matter of days after its release. Since many TYPEMOON fans have been awaiting the game since its announcement, many social media sites and gaming forums were flooded by the hot topic on its release date which caused a big ruckus in the fan community.



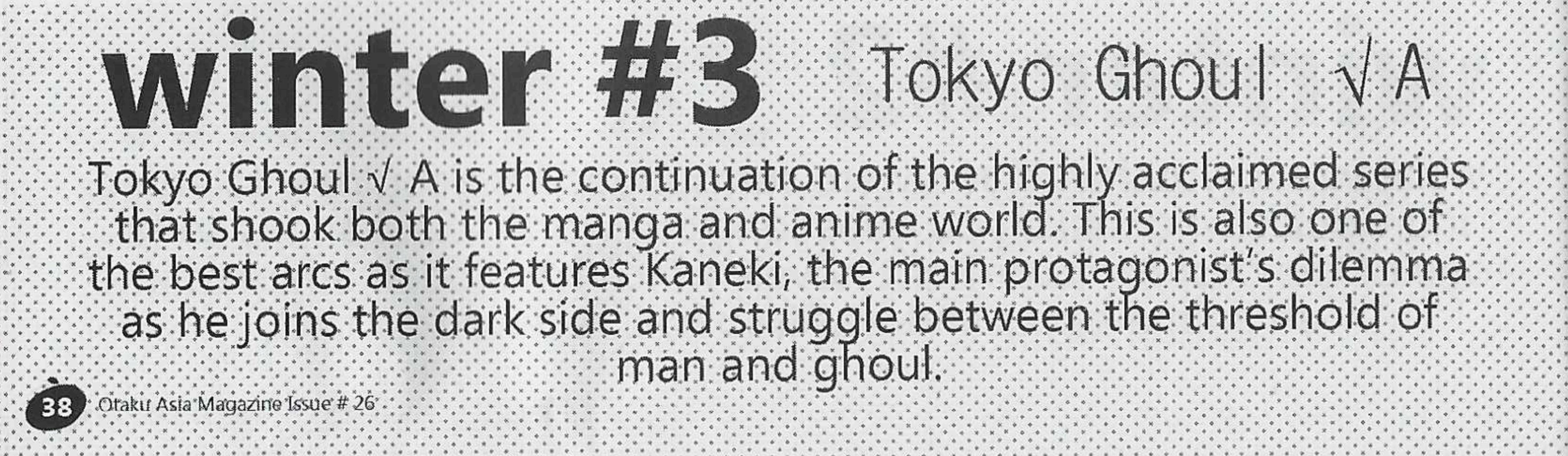
Dying Light

It is a vibrant and ambitious zombie world playground that lets player experience the carnage of trying to survive in an undead infested community.



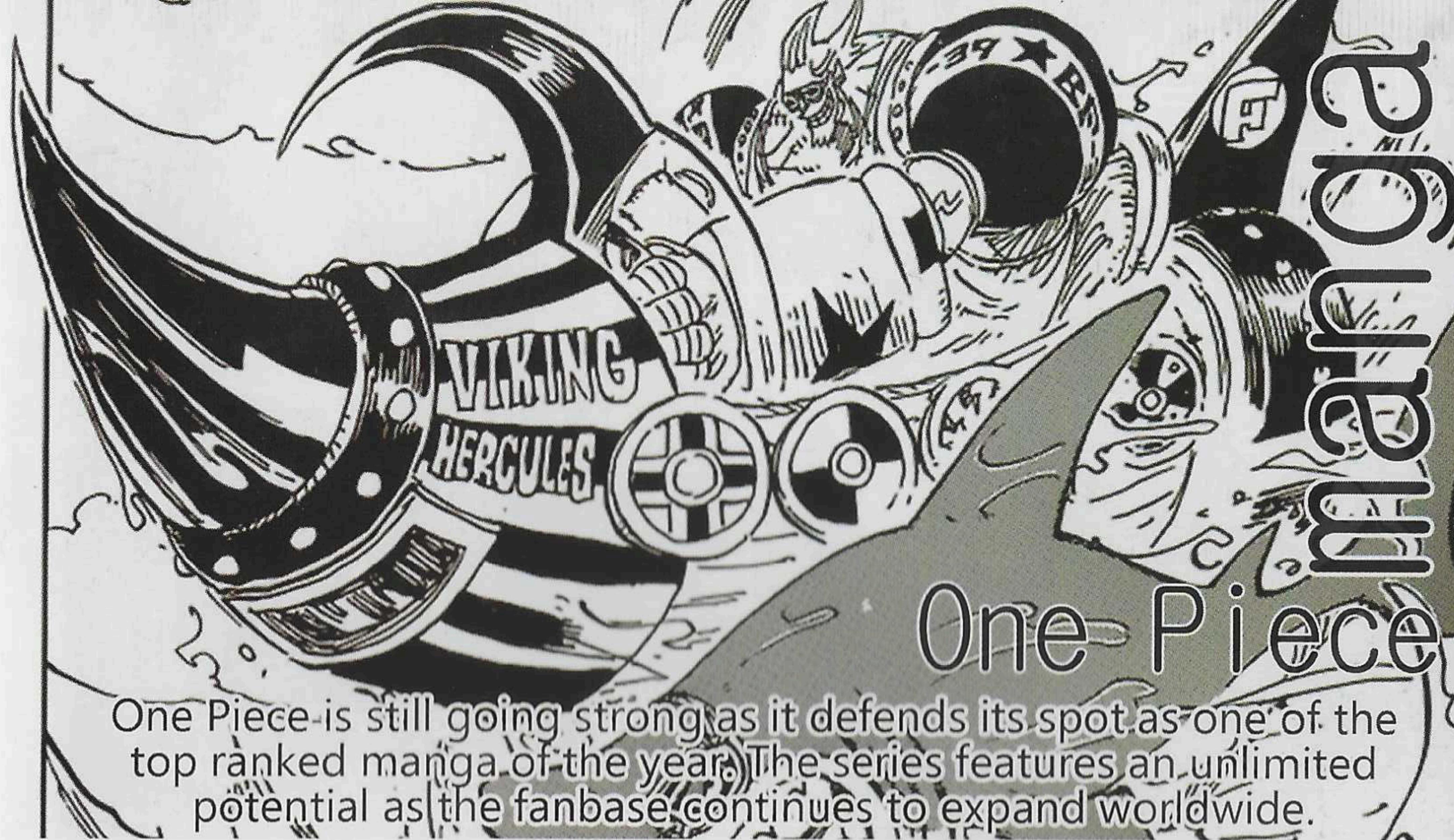
Until Dawn

Though dramatic and cliché Until Dawn has delivered a majestic suspense-thriller you wouldn't want to miss out on.



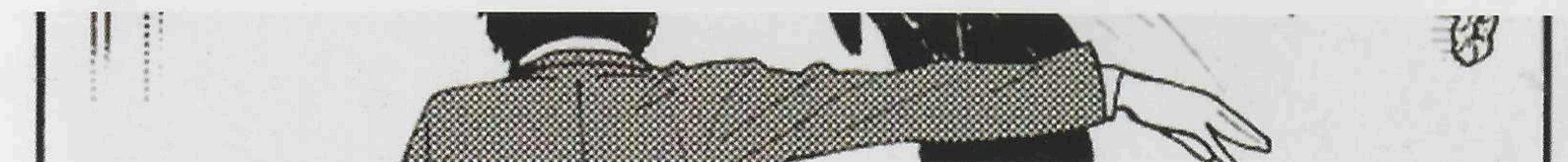
winter #3 Tokyo Ghoul √A

Tokyo Ghoul √A is the continuation of the highly acclaimed series that shook both the manga and anime world. This is also one of the best arcs as it features Kaneki, the main protagonist's dilemma as he joins the dark side and struggle between the threshold of man and ghoul.



One Piece

One Piece is still going strong as it defends its spot as one of the top ranked manga of the year. The series features an unlimited potential as the fanbase continues to expand worldwide.



Tomo-chan wa Onnanoko!

This manga would leave a strong impression to those that like reading light hearted romcoms and specially those who could relate to Tomo's situation.

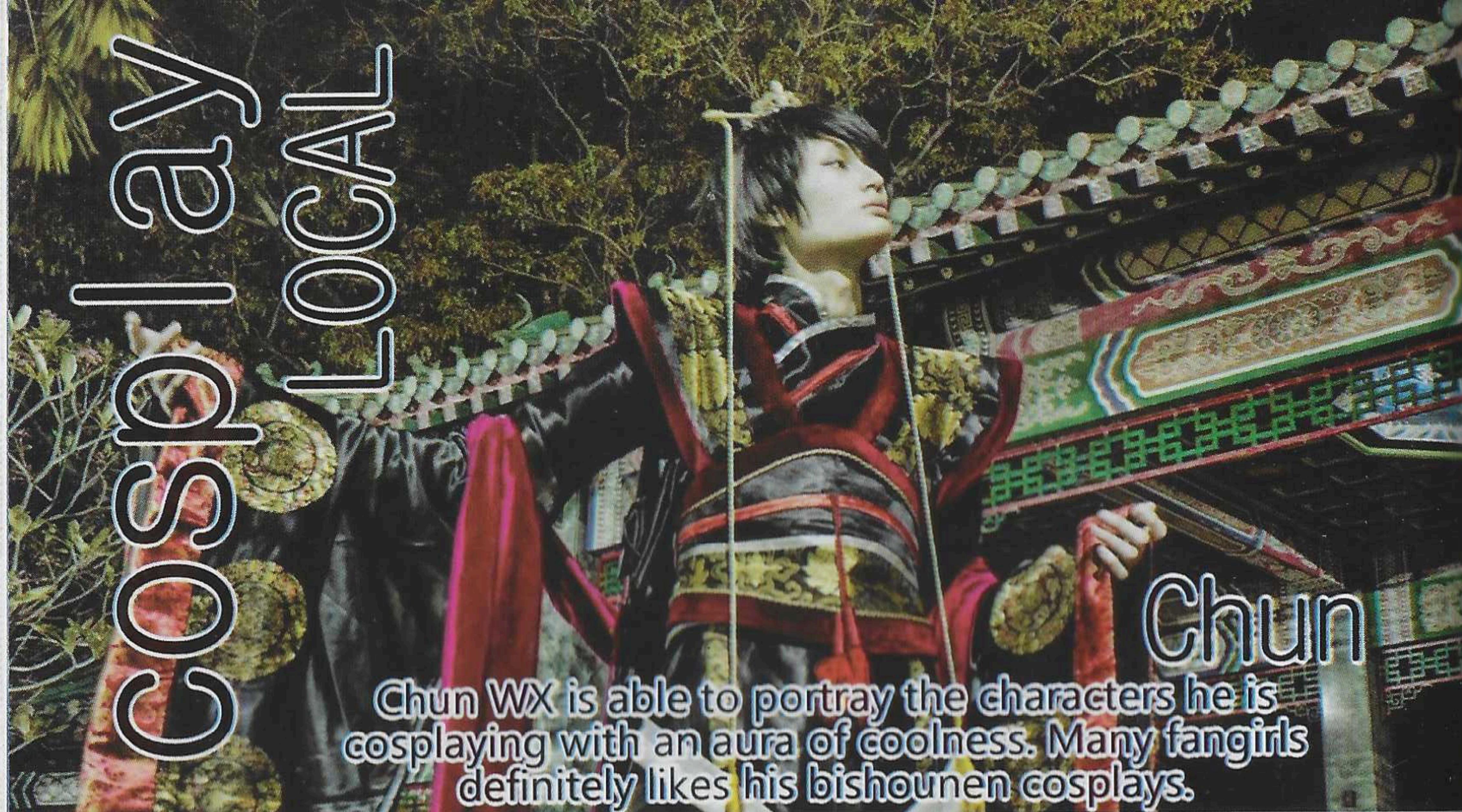


UQ Holder!

Though it took a couple of years, some of the questions left unanswered from the previous generation had resurfaced as fans eagerly follow the ongoing serialization.

spring #1 Plastic Memories

Plastic Memories is of course one of the most memorable series of the season as it made us ride a roller coaster filled with tears and joy. We faithfully awaited the fate of the story's main characters, and for everyone who hopped along the feels train, never falter for it shall be engraved upon our memories.



Chun

Chun WX is able to portray the characters he is cosplaying with an aura of coolness. Many fangirls definitely likes his bishounen cosplays.



Mimi Mon

Mimi Mon has continues to rise up as one of the most popular cosplayer in the PH as she entrances us with graceful cosplays.



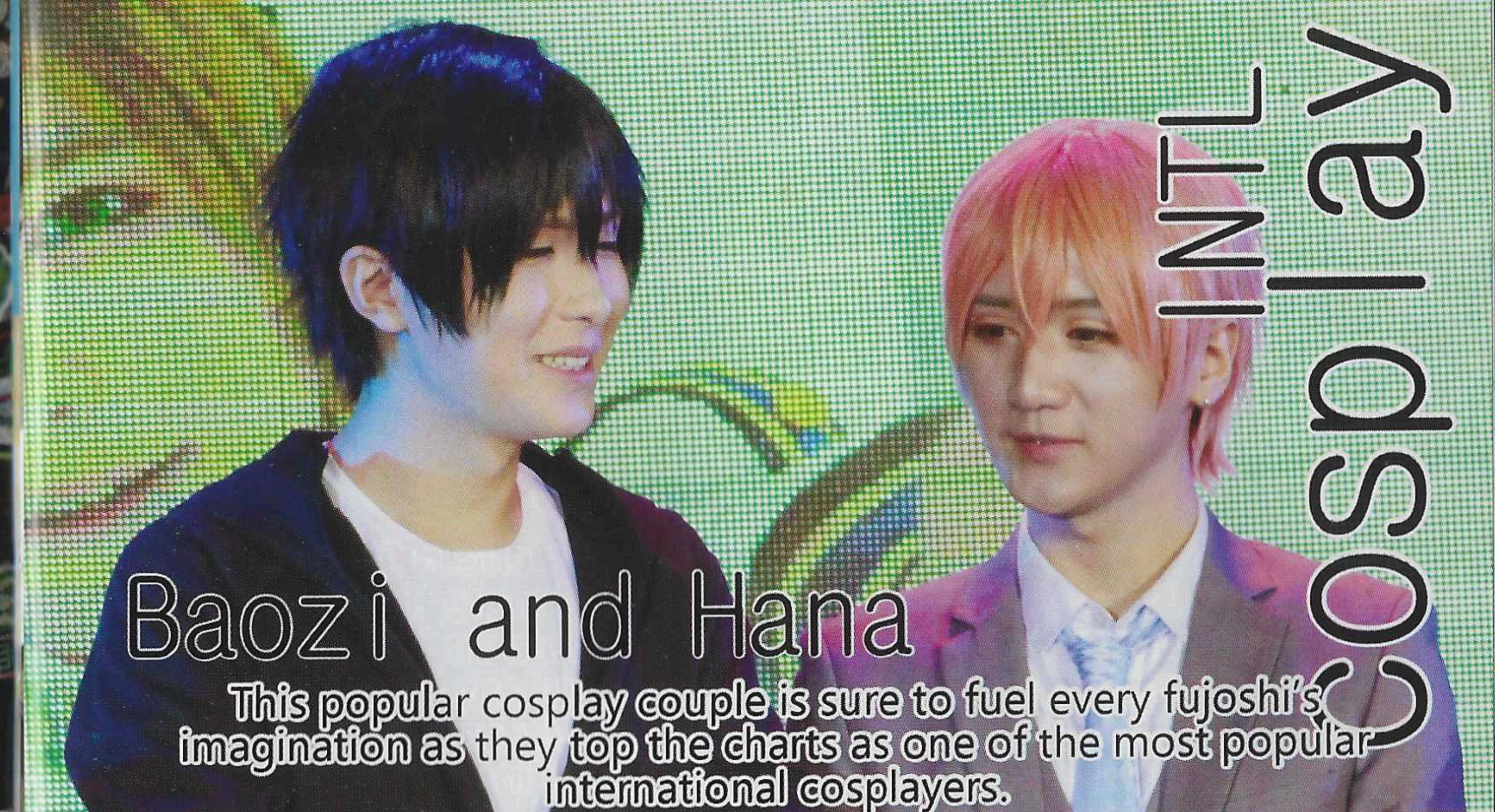
Naru Edelan

Naru cosplays some of the most prominent and well known characters introduced in the otaku specially Saber from the popular fate series.

spring #2

Fate/Stay Night : Unlimited Blade Works

This is the highly awaited conclusion of the Unlimited Blade Works route from the Fate/Stay Night franchise. Action-packed fight scenes, intense turn of events and interesting characters makes UBW a show worth investing your time to watch.



Baozi and Hana

This popular cosplay couple is sure to fuel every fujoshi's imagination as they top the charts as one of the most popular international cosplayers.



Aza Miyuko

Miyuko's popularity is still as strong as ever as she riles up the PH otaku community with her guest appearances at local conventions.



Reika

Reika is most likely how Levi from SnK would have looked like if he really existed. Her portrayal of the characters she cosplays as is very realistic and cool.

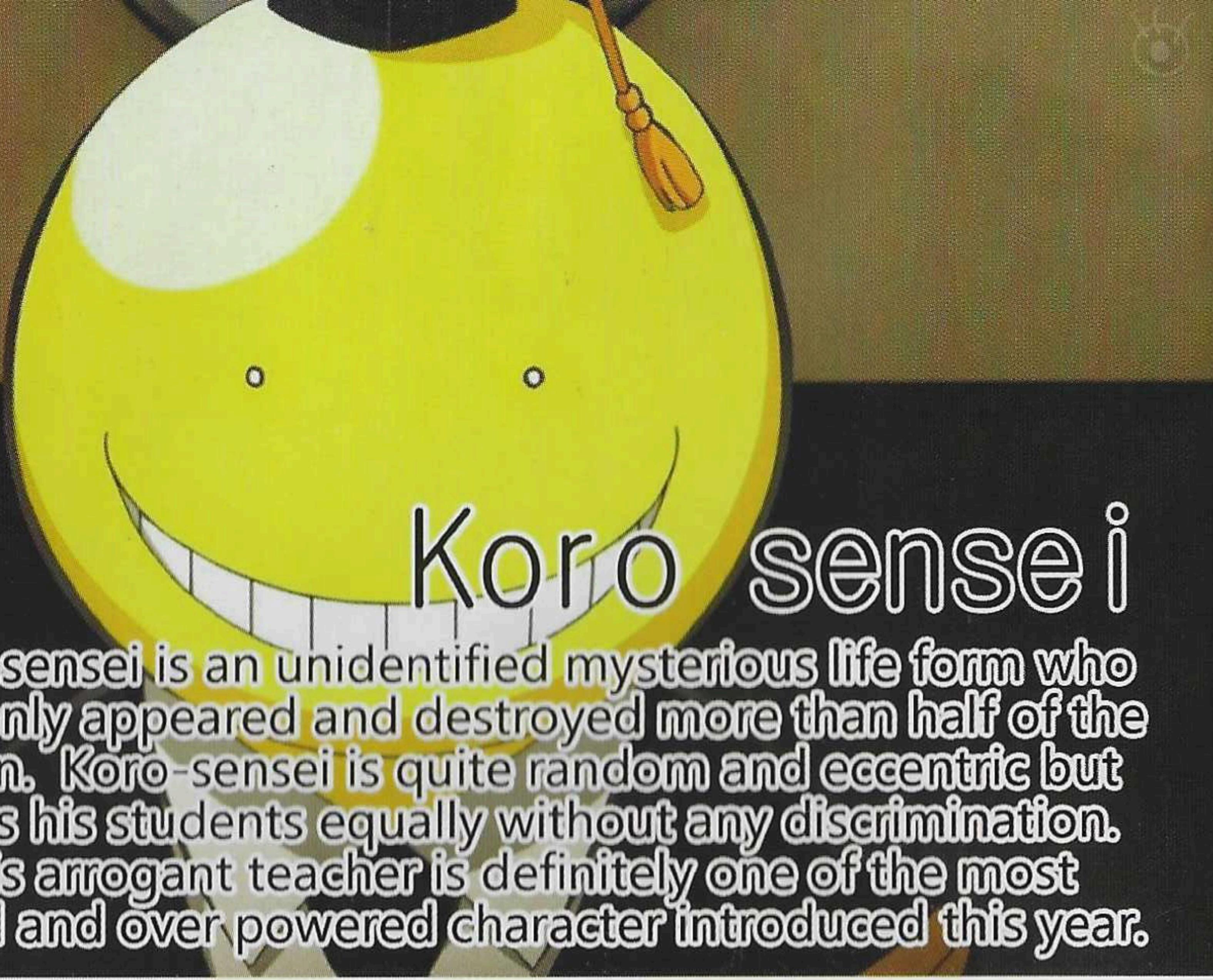
spring #3

Seraph of the End

A post-apocalyptic setting combined with an all-out war between humans and vampires, it can't get anymore exciting than that. Seraph of the End also features awesome fight scenes and a heavy plot that delivers angst and excitement to its watchers.

Character

MALE



Koro sensei

Koro-sensei is an unidentified mysterious life form who suddenly appeared and destroyed more than half of the moon. Koro-sensei is quite random and eccentric but treats his students equally without any discrimination.

This arrogant teacher is definitely one of the most famed and over powered character introduced this year.



Bell Krael

Heroic, kind and hardworking are only some of Bell's good traits. He started out as a mere weakling who doesn't know left from right when he first ventured out to become an adventurer but was later considered as a hero due to his valiant deeds and heroic exploits.



Hachiman Hikigaya

Hachiman is considered as a dark hero. Nevertheless he endeavors to protect his friends and love ones and as he struggles to discover something 'genuine'.

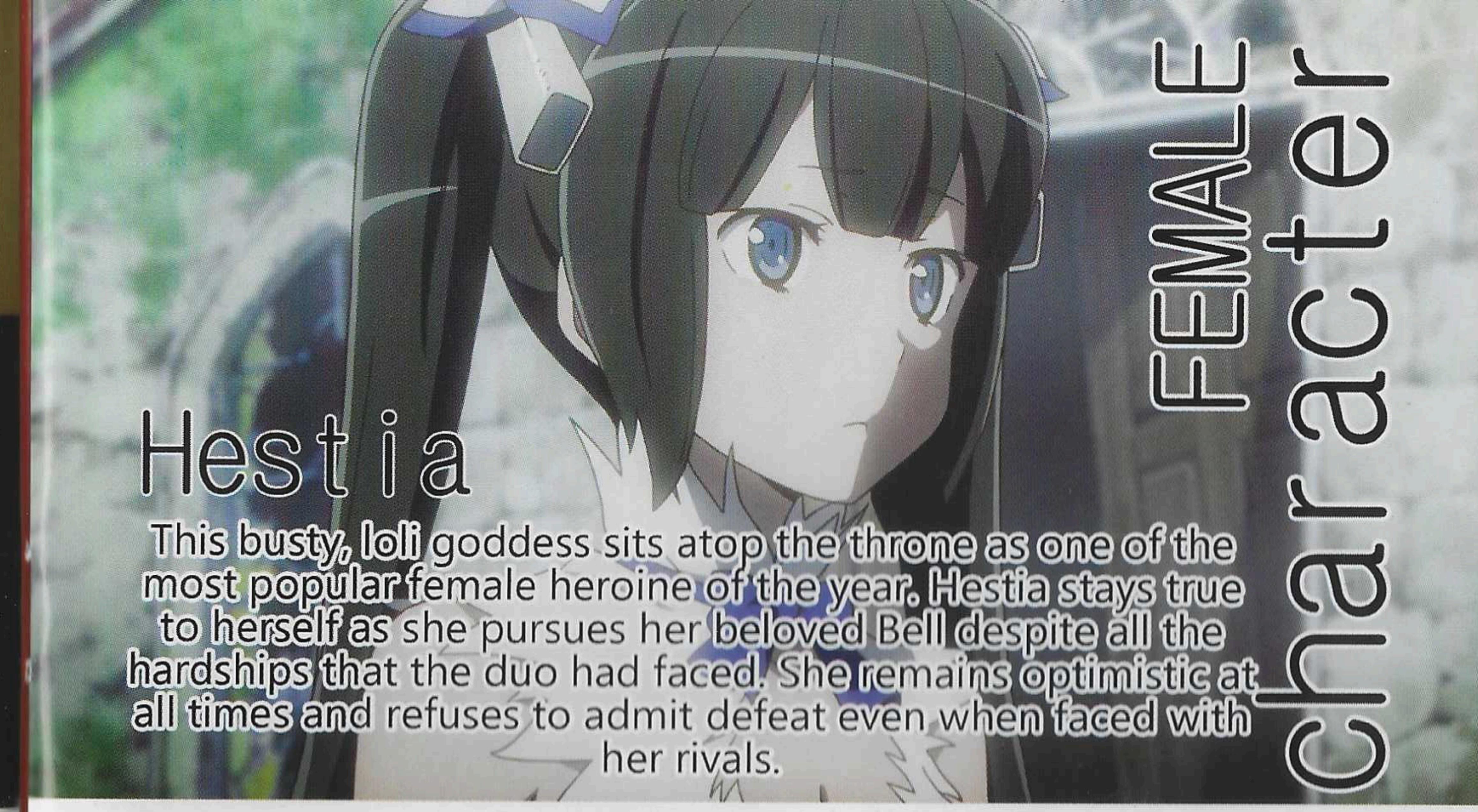
summer#1

Charlotte

Jun Maeda brought fans to tears yet again with his latest work. Much like his previous works, Charlotte features a group of teens who possesses supernatural powers as they struggle against trials and tribulations in order to protect their kind.

Character

FEMALE



Hestia

This busty, loli goddess sits atop the throne as one of the most popular female heroine of the year. Hestia stays true to herself as she pursues her beloved Bell despite all the hardships that the duo had faced. She remains optimistic at all times and refuses to admit defeat even when faced with her rivals.



Rin Tohsaka

Rin now takes the spotlight as she stars as the main heroine of the Fate series. Rin was able to capture the heart of many fans as she struggles to win the Holy Grail war.



Ayame Kajou

Ayame thinks about the greater good and shows concern especially towards friends. Her crazy ideas and lewd habits cause a great uproar that could shake the very foundations of morality.

summer#2

Shimoneta to Iu Gainen ga
Sonzai Shinai Taikutsu na
Sekai

Dirty jokes are commonly used to liven up parties, gatherings or even simple small talks. Shimoseka explores a very unique setting which immediately caught the attention of many otakus around the globe.

Top Anime SUMMARY

winter

Kantai Collection	1
Saekano	2
Tokyo Ghoul Root A	3
Ansatsu no Kyoushitsu	4
iDOLM@STER Cinderella Girls	5

spring

Plastic Memories	1
Fate/Stay Night: Unlimited Blade Works	2
Seraph of the End	3
Dungeon ni Deai wo Motomeru no wa Machigatteiru Darou ka	4
Yahari Ore no Seishun Love Comedy wa Machigatteiru. Zoku	5

summer

Charlotte	1
Shimoneta to Iu Gainen ga Sonzai Shinai Taikutsu	2
na Sekai	
Gate: Jieitai Kanochi nite, Kaku Tatakaeri	3
Overlord	4
Monster Musume no Iru Nichijou	5

summer#3

Gate: Jieitai Kanochi nite, Kaku Tatakaeri

An elf, a mage and an immortal goth loli; who doesn't want to meet such interesting characters that should only exist in the 2D world? Similar from its manga version, Gate's anime adaptation quickly went up the ranks with its medieval fantasy meets modern world setting.



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Photo by: Fritz Tentavita

**J-IDOL**

Splash of Colors and Coolness

article by: Ann

A rainbow of colors, fresh, sweet and tangy, and not to mention, good for you — juice just creates that splash in us, but something very similar to these characteristics are that of Juice=Juice, the J-idol girl group composed of 5 members with each standing for a specific fruit.



This group originally started in 2013 as part of the Hello! Project with Aina Otsuka (Orange) as the sixth member, but after a while, she resigned, leaving the members with the following: Yuka Miyazaki as Peach (leader), Tomoko Kanazawa as Apple (subleader), Sayuki Takagi as Lemon, Karin Miyamoto as Grape, and Akari Uemura as Melon. Produced by Tsunku, the group is noted to be nowhere about being childish. As promised by their name Juice=Juice delivers cool and refreshing hits with singles packed with an contagious beat, especially with their debut single, "Romance no Tochuu Aside."

from the lively beats, the group emphasizes the other meaning of their name, "full personality," by complementing their music through varieties such as jazz, rock, ballad, and boogie.

The group has called attention to many J-idol fans for their fast-track in their careers. Beginning with their indie single, "Watashi ga Iu Mae ni Dakishimenakya ne," they marked their entry when it took the 25th spot in the Weekly Oricon charts in 2014. After the release of "First Squeeze!," their first album, they announced their concert



tour in Taipei, Taiwan and Hongkong, China in October called "Juice=Juice LIVE MISSION 220 ~Code 1→Begin to Run~." This international act comes as a strong career move given their usual performances as the opening acts for concerts such as that of Morning Musume and C-ute and their solo nationwide tour called "Juice=Juice 1st Live Tour 2014 News=News ~Kakuchi Yori Otodoke Shimasu!~." On another note, they also had "Wonderful World/Ça va ? Ça va ?" as their first single to top the Weekly Oricon Charts released in 2015.

Watch out, J-idol fans, because we can anticipate a continuous flow of freshness and sensation in this promising group!

WONDERFUL WORLD

Kono sekai wa SUBARASHII
yo ne
Nante ooki na ai ni
tsutsumareteiru no?!
Anata ga ireba Anata wo
omoeba
Sore dake de koko wa
Wonderful World

Moshimo anata to
deawanakattara
Ima goro watashi nani
shiteru kana
FUTSUU no nichijou
FUTSUU no shiawase
Dore mo ne arikitari na no

FUTSUU tte sa hito
sorezore aru keredo
Anata ni deaeta kara

Kono sekai wa SUBARASHII
yo ne
Nante ooki na ai ni
tsutsumareteiru no?!
Anata ga ireba
Anata wo omoeba
Sore dake de koko wa
Wonderful World

Kyuu ni furidasu ame tte
suki janai kedo
Tokidoki SUTEKI na
wasuremono
Nanairo no niji ga kukkiri
mietara
Subete wa umaku yuku wa

Yume tte sa todokanai
mono datta kedo
Anata ni deaeta kara

Kono sekai wa utsukushii
yo ne
Nante mabushii hikari ni
afureteiru no?!
Futari no ai ga
Daichi wo terasu
Jinsei wa kaisei desu!

La la la la....
You say you love me.
And I say I love you.
Itsumademo Only you

La la la la....

Kono sekai wa futari no
mono!!!

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FIND YOUR GATSBY SIGNATURE SCENT

Every man needs a signature scent that shows off his unique personality. Gatsby Urban Cologne collection are fresh, clean, bold fragrances with an urban edge recommended for casual use.



BOLD SPIRIT

A warm note combining spicy and rich aroma creates an active and adventurous image



LUXURY AIR

A warm and tranquil note incorporating aromatic freshness creates a calm and forward-looking image



CLEAR MIND

A refreshing note combining clear citrus and fruity notes creates jovial yet elegant



SECRET STYLE

A modern note incorporating a hint of fruity note creates a cool and stylish image



PERFECT SENSE

A deeply spicy and cool note creates a smart and cultivated image



MANGA

The Escape from Endless Experiments

by Lizac 3.0

Ajin

Immortality is a taboo topic in religion, but not in the field of science. The quest for the fountain of youth goes on. But if there are immortals that appeared without any clear source or basis, it is expected that science will not treat them as humans, but as guinea pigs.

Kei Nagai is an incoming college student who wants to be a doctor someday. He doesn't waste time doing mindless things. He even drifts apart from his best friend **Kaito**, afraid of being dragged to his rowdy activities. Kei's future looks promising until he gets involved in a fatal accident. Everyone in the scene thought the accident claimed his life, but he is revived and regenerated as if nothing happened.

An "ajin" who gets back to life after suffering from a deadly accident or a disease, Kei becomes the 47th known ajin in the world and 3rd in Japan. In a matter of seconds, with everyone tailing him and having nowhere to go, Kei calls his best friend Kaito for help. Together, they escape the authorities hunting Ajin for the purpose of scientific research and experiment. In a world where Ajin is condemned and considered non-humans, Kei's safety is on the loose; and as the cooperator, Kaito's life is in great danger.

Ajin: Demi-Human or simply known as **Ajin**, is an on-going seinen manga written and illustrated by **Gamon Sakurai**. It is published in 2012 under **Kodansha**. Ajin ranked the third best manga in a poll conducted by the manga news site **Comic Natalie** in 2012. It is also the third place in a survey on **Top 20 manga** for male readers in 2013. An anime film trilogy has been produced, the first one of which was released on November 2015. An anime series adaptation of Ajin is also set to be aired on January 2016. Ajin includes many different genres such as horror, supernatural, action, mystery, and adventure. The combination of these genres has been effective in telling the story of a normal human being who is now an Ajin. Trigger warning: torture, blood and amputated body parts. It's all over this manga. Definitely not for the fainthearted but it is indeed a challenging read. Join Kei and Kaito as they continue to escape their impending doom and discover more about the abilities of an Ajin. As the sun rises, a day of running begins for these two souls yet again.



He's a She!

Tomo-chan wa Onnanoko!

by Lizac 3.0

Tomo-chan was never the girly type ever since she was a child. She is tall and has a solid built, plays games that most boys love and even learns martial arts like Karate due to the influence of her father. Because of this, she is relentlessly mistaken as a boy even by one of her best friends from childhood, **Jun**. His ignorance of her gender is almost amazing, but it doesn't end there.

It gets bad when Tomo confesses her love to **Jun** as he doesn't take her seriously. When they finally attend the same high school, Jun still thinks that she is a boy despite Tomo wearing a skirt. At this point, it is almost impossible to convince him that she is a real girl. **Misuzu**, her only female best friend, sends help by giving suggestive pieces of advice. The fact that Tomo is an actual girl should be shoved onto Jun's face, almost literally. Jun might just be completely oblivious, indifferent, or simply pretending not to know as a defense mechanism to his real feelings. We will never know unless we read on to this awesome manga!

Tomo-chan wa Onnanoko! is a four-strip panel manga written and illustrated by **Yanagida Fumita** in 2015 and serialized in the magazine **Tsui 4**. Each chapter contains four panels and is often updated more quickly than any other kinds of manga. The first few chapters of the manga contain ten pages, but the next releases contain only one page for each chapter and updated daily. It is a wonder how a chapter could fit into four panels without sacrificing the story flow and dialogue, but **Tomo-chan wa Onnanoko!** is a success. The art is beautiful, apparent in the eye candy characters.

Aside from Tomo's struggles as a girl, it also puts a lot of weight on friendship. The characters value friendships very much as seen through the character of **Misuzu** and **Jun**. Other characters that have been introduced so far have quirks of their own as well and they make the readers anticipate each new chapter every day.

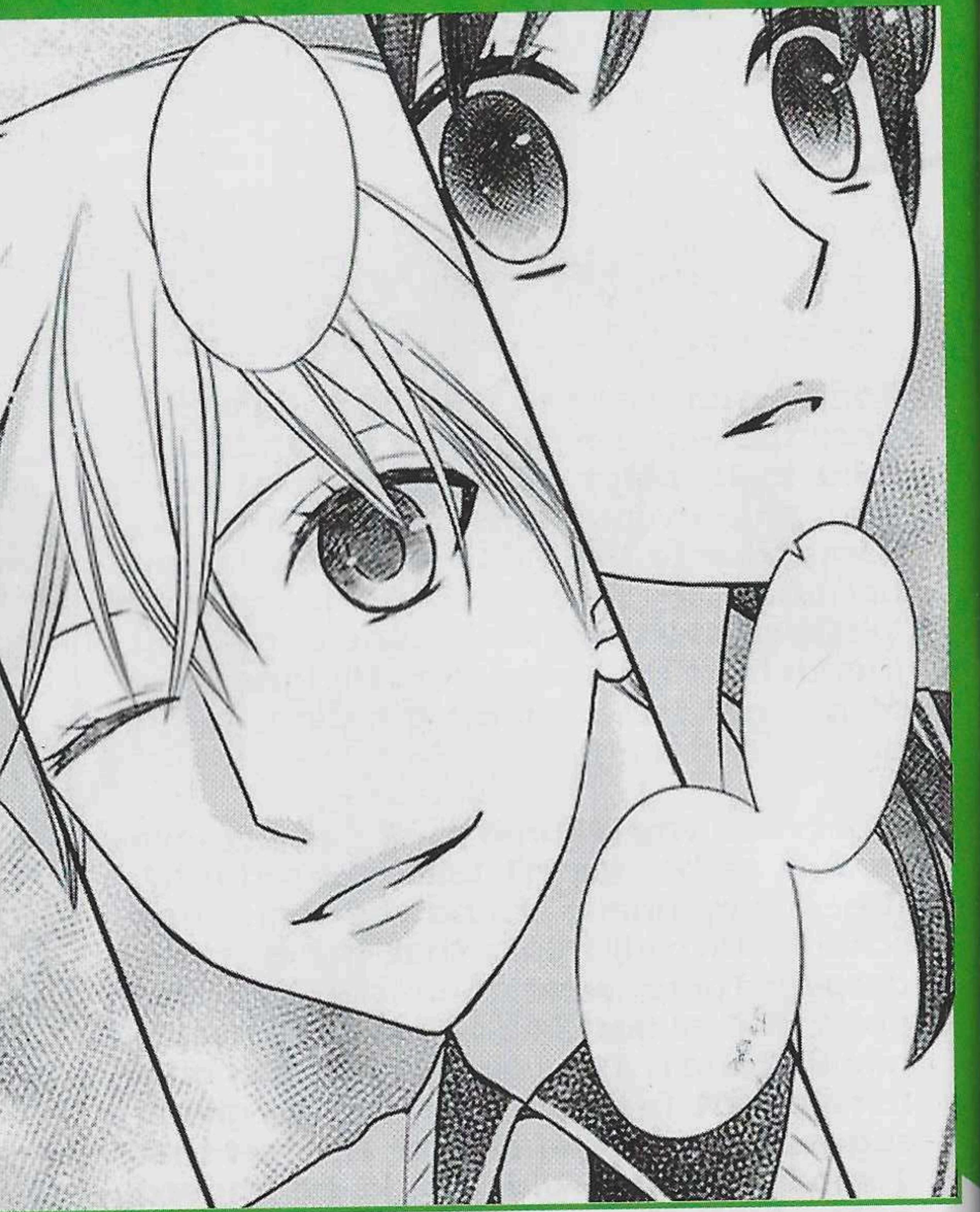
The misgendering toward Tomo might have appeared to be trivialized in the manga. In normal circumstances, being misgendered is a terrible feeling. However, the blame is mostly directed at Jun, or any other character who mistakes Tomo as a boy because of their insensibility. It is dealt with in a lighthearted manner and it is clear that the mangaka tries their best to not offend anyone. Overall, the target readers are bound to enjoy **Tomo-chan wa Onnanoko!** because of its unique plot and Tomo's exciting journey to self-discovery.



The Long Awaited Return

Fruits Basket Another

The new series is set back in the same **Kaibara High School** where the protagonists of the **Fruits Basket** original series, **Tohru Honda, Kyo and Yuki Sohma** already graduated, and our new protagonist, **Sawa**



Mitoma, just enrolled in **Sawa**, due to several experiences, feels that she is a burden to everyone so she decided to stay away from others so she won't cause any trouble. Though situations that she seems that she is a bothersome to others arise one after the other. Along with these circumstances, she encounters **Mutsuki** and **Hajime Sohma**; **Mutsuki** that would always save her from trouble and **Hajime** who she accidentally stepped on his face. How will her encounter with these two change her life and her belief?



Fruits Basket Another is a sequel of the highly acclaimed **Fruits Basket** series of **Natsuki Takaya**. The series was launched back in September 4 in the free **HanaLaLa** online website. Every chapter is released online every Friday and the author planned that the series would be only 2-3 volumes long as it is meant to commemorate the release of the **Fruits Basket** collector's edition. Even if it being a sequel, the protagonists of **Fruits Basket** will not make an appearance but will only be mentioned in conversations. Don't worry if you haven't read the original series, you will surely enjoy the story and the characters of this sequel.

What is in store in **Sawa** and her encounter with the **Sohmas**? Tune in and have a good laugh with **Fruits Basket Another**!

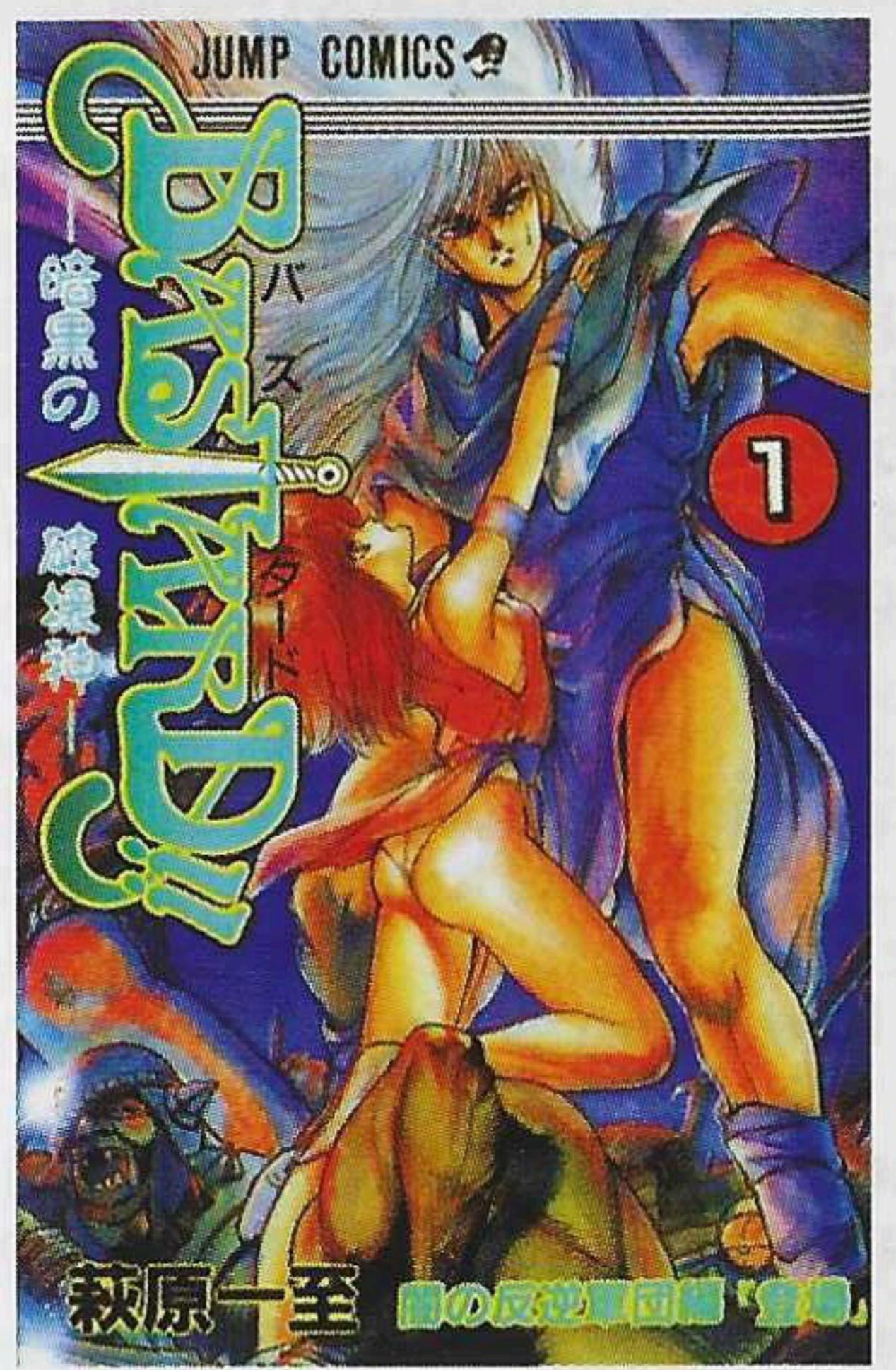
Heavy Metal Fantasy

Bastard!!

by Ren

With immense power in your hands, what will you do? Well **Dark Schneider** tried to conquer the world with it but the results was not the one he expected to happen.

Bastard!! follows the story of **Dark Schneider**, the strongest dark wizard in the world that was sealed 15 years ago. Due to the Kingdom of Meta-Ricana being attacked by the **Four Lords of Havoc**, the high priest asked his daughter to awaken the wizard from within the body of a 14 year old **Luche Renren**. With **Dark Schneider's** revival, how will it affect the all-out war to revive the God of Destruction, **Anthrax**?



Bastard!!: Heavy Metal, Dark Fantasy is an ongoing seinen, dark fantasy manga by **Kazushi Hagiwara**. The manga first appeared in **Weekly Shonen Jump** back in 1988 and it continues to be published today in **Ultra Jump**. **Kazushi Hagiwara** is known to be a fan of heavy metal music and the game, **Dungeons & Dragons**, which heavily influenced the story of **Bastard!!**

Bastard!! is a story that is full of twists so better expect the unexpected while following the story of our hero. In between these story twists are action packed battles and scenes with humor to further add up to your interest. Take note though that the series' target audience are adults so be warned to see adult content.

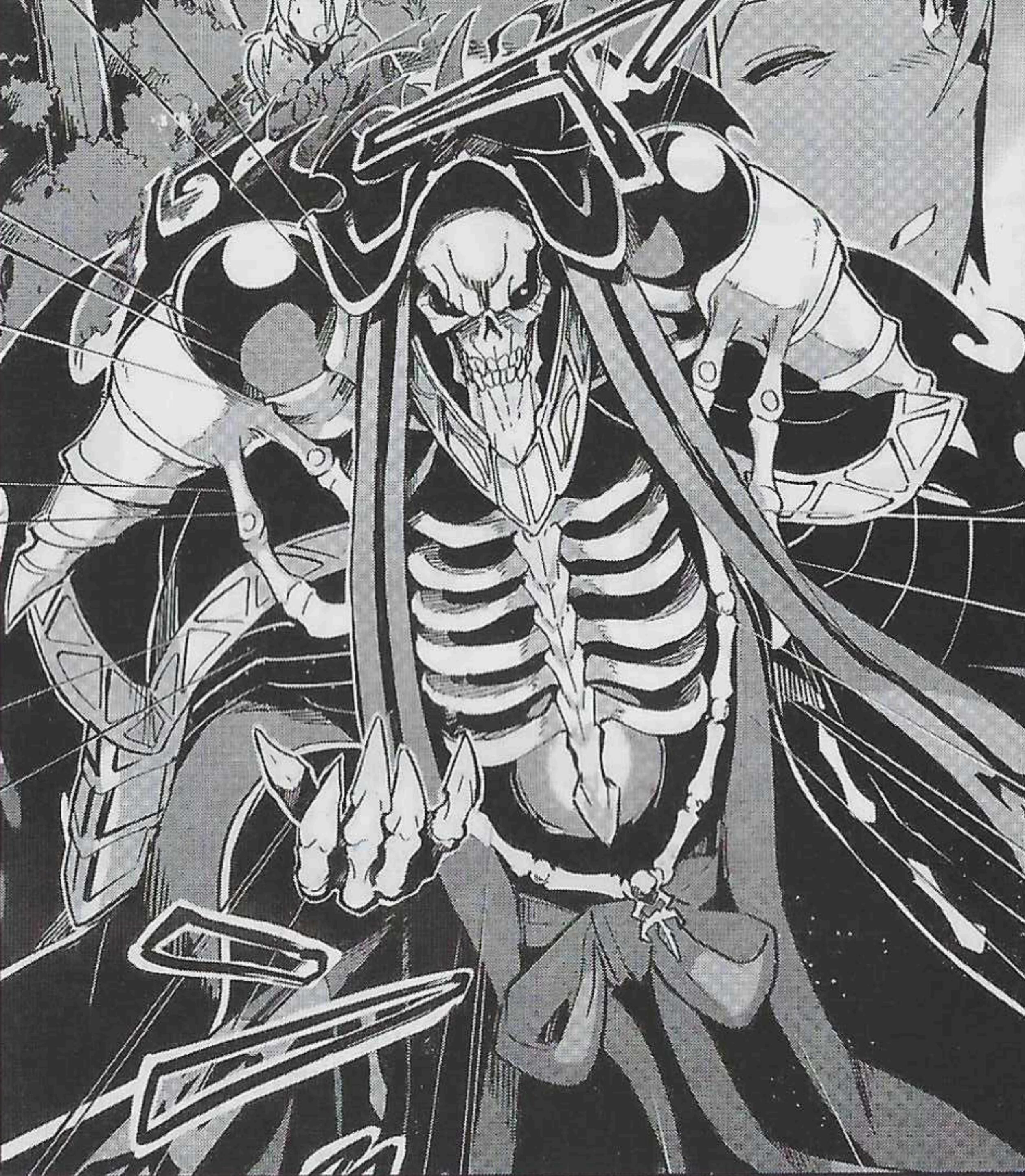
Master of the New World

by John Robert Lim

Overlord

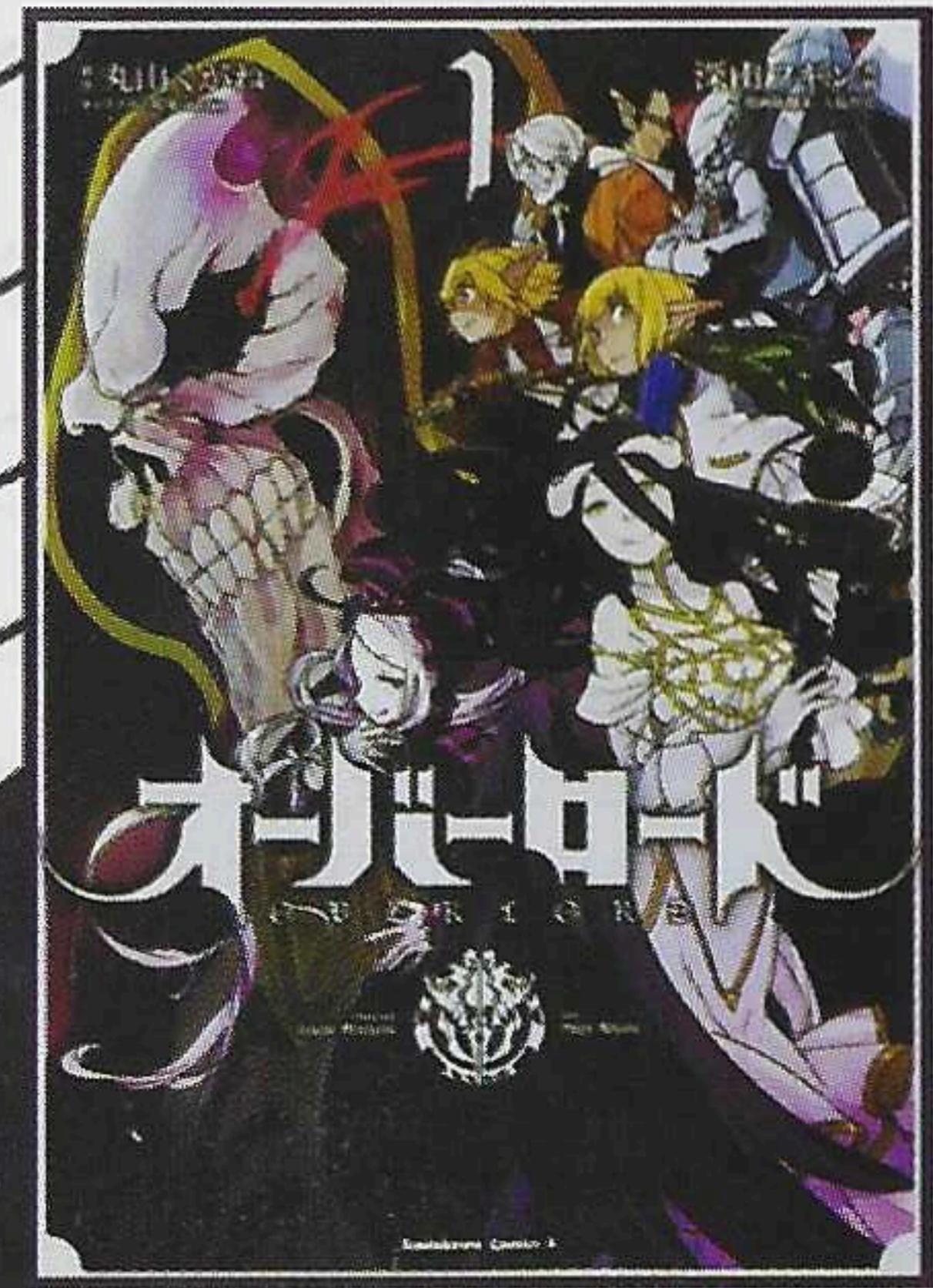
Nothing lasts forever." Truer words have not been said before. We, in our weakness, might try to deny it, but the sad fact remains that everything will come to pass some day....

Fret not! Fret not, for every end merely marks a new beginning.



Overlord's story begins on the date of the online game **Yggdrasil**'s closure. Once a popular MMO, it was decided that the game would be on its way out. In response, **Ainz Ooal Gown**, one of the major guilds, comes together for one last meeting. In spite of everyone logging out, the guild master, **Momonga**, chooses to stay till the final moments, waiting until the server shuts down and the game finally meets its end. The end of the world does come, but not in an expected way. As the clock finally ticks away, Momonga finds himself still stuck in his skeleton avatar while the NPC remnants of **Yggdrasil** spring to life with their own personalities. Left with no other connections to the real world, Momonga and his new servants begin a quest to become the master of this completely new world, one which is their new reality.

The **Overlord** manga is an adaptation of **Kugane Maruyama**'s light novel. The manga series began its publication on **Comp Ace** during the latter part of November 2014, this time being illustrated by **Fugin Miyama**. It has been going on since then and has at least 8 chapters in its release history.



So, what makes **Overlord** stand out from its other similar contemporaries? For once, readers are presented a main character who is not a player trapped inside an online game, but is practically its god. The unique take on a protagonist in the genre continues with **Momonga**'s personality leaning towards an actual evil overlord that's slowly losing his humanity instead of a virtuous hero out to save the world.

Despite the manga sounding so serious with all the descriptions given, **Overlord** has no shortage of humor. This goes along as a stark contrast with the serious looking art, but with the quirky core cast that the series offers, the comedic segments feel like they still belong in a manga like this.

Given its different take on the online game genre, **Overlord** is sure to please both fans and non-fans alike. This is one story of conquest that you have to read.

Lovely Prince Charming? Nope!

by John Robert Lim

Wolf Girl and Black Prince

Ah, the feeling of acceptance... such an intoxicating feeling that push people to act as fake personas. The irony here is that the once that persona caught on to people, you'd be forced into sustaining it. Once fallen, there's nowhere left to go but to keep digging deeper and deeper into your act.



Wolf Girl and Black Prince is the romance comedy story of high school girl **Erika Shinohara**'s. Being a girl who wants to fit in with her friends, she takes out the simplest trick in the book: lying about her relationship status. Contrived coincidence or not, the boy she talked about happens to be not only her classmate but the school crush as well. What's more, he's willing to play along with her lies. It did not take long for the dream come true to turn into a living nightmare. After all, this guy, **Kyouya Sata**, is a completely different person underneath his charming facade. Beneath those handsome looks is a sadist who demands Erika to become his dog.

Only time will tell if a silver lining would appear as the awkward couple's relationship continues to develop.



The **Wolf Girl and Black Prince** has been ongoing since 2011. It is **Ayuko Hatta**'s solo work in the monthly shoujo magazine **Bessatsu Margaret**. The series is arguably her biggest hit so far, reaching the point of receiving an anime adaptation in 2014 and an OVA bundled with the manga's 12th volume.

Being a shoujo series, which is usually geared towards girls with fluffy love stories, this series comes off as rather strange for its genre, getting rid of the usual mushy romantic development between the leads from the get-go. The characters may seem like your traditional shoujo leads at first, yet it would take no more than a few flips to see that they are an interesting bunch. The two manage to keep readers looking forward to the next chapters in anticipation. It is not a story of two perfect people falling in love, but one where the couple is so flawed and unidealized that seeing them in action feels refreshingly amusing.

A quirky story of lies gone horribly wrong, this series would surely break the typical expectations of what a shoujo manga is. Is there still hope for this relationship? Only one way to find out: read the manga!

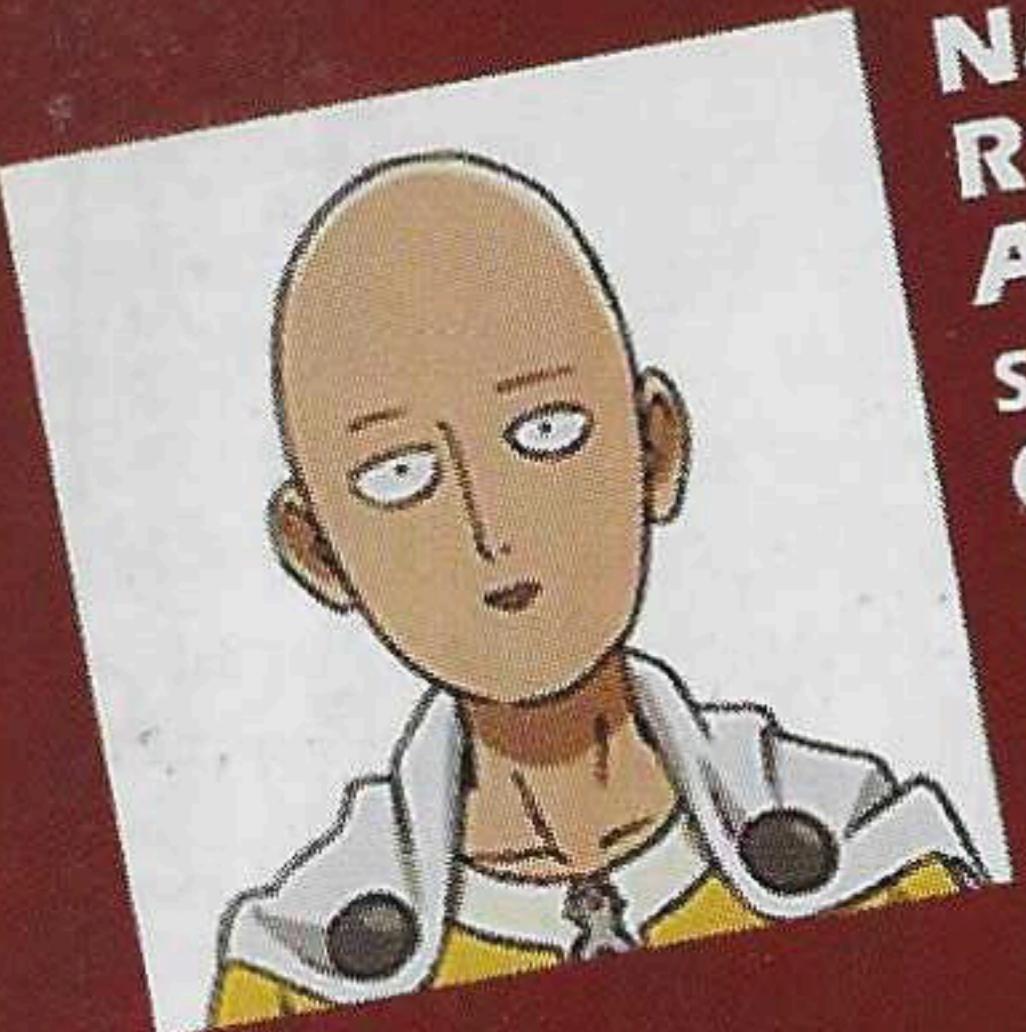


CHARACTER BIO

by Reikisha

NO SECOND PUNCH IS NEEDED

Living in a world where superheroes exist must be a good place to live in, but it can also be dangerous at the same time since anything can happen now from extraterrestrial attacks to global extinction. Fortunately, Earth's mightiest heroes will rise to prevent any potential threat that may endanger innocent people. This issue's featured character may not be a part of the Avengers, but his heroics are surely more than enough for him to qualify!



Name: Saitama
Race: Human
Abilities: Superhuman strength, speed and agility
Occupation: Superhero
Affiliation: The Heroes Association
Association Rank: C-Class
Character Voice: Makoto

Saitama was an unemployed salaryman when he saved a double-chinned boy from a mutated crab monster, reminding him of his childhood dream of becoming a superhero. He became bald from training himself to superhuman levels and is now too powerful to gain any thrill from his hero gig. As a C-Class superhero affiliated with the **Heroes Association**, Saitama is assigned to defend Z-city from mysterious beings.

Saitama's costume consists of a yellow jumpsuit with a zipper at the collar, a belt, a pair of red gloves, boots and a cape. He's usually drawn in a simpler style than other characters to serve as comic relief, with a rounded head and only a simply mouth and eyes. When drawn in an "action-oriented" style, Saitama's overall features become sharper and dangerous-looking.

Unlike most heroes, Saitama is laid back and doesn't take his work very seriously because even the mightiest foes are no match against him. Even though his superhero work is starting to get boring for him, Saitama constantly searches for an opponent who can finally disprove that he's the strongest hero alive.

THE SWORD MASTER

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Shōyō Hinata, is short in stature of only 162.8cm in height. He is inspired by a volleyball ace player, "Small Giant" from Karasuno High. Upon entering the same high school, he is reunited with a rival, Tobio Kageyama. Together, they become a duo with a reputation of "weird quick attacks" where they overwhelm their opponents with inhuman quicks.

The first season aired back in April 2014 and now, the second season October 2015!



Last we left our varsity players, they lost to a top 4 team, Aoba Jousai with a 2:1 / 25-15, 23-25, 33-31 score. They come back to school with their head low. Additionally, the third years are expected to leave the club to focus on their studies and future. Because of their loss, Coach Ukai decided not to have practices for the day but also because of their loss, the team met anyway. This dedication paved a new goal: Spring High.

A tournament has phases, and school tournaments normally has 3 phases:

- District phase
- Prefecture phase
- National phase

The District and Prefecture phases normally are called Preliminaries and the National is normally called the finals. Spring High finals takes place in Tokyo and is also the match where Hinata first knew the "Little Giant". Miyagi prefecture is small and does not have a district phase unlike Tokyo (where Nekoma High is).

The Spring High - Miyagi Prefecture Representative Playoffs meant that Karasuno will be playing against Shiratorizawa Academy.

The powerhouse school is among the top 8 of Japan and first in Miyagi district for generations. Team captain Ushijima Wakatoshi, is ranked 3rd among the best aces in the whole country and is the under 18 representative of Japan for an international volleyball team, Youth World.

In the first episode of Haikyuu!!'s season 2, Kageyama Tobio and Hinata Shōyo literally run into Ushijima. They follow him to the academy to recon (spy). Here Hinata is insulted when Ushijima says that Aobajōsai High is weak by comparing them to infertile soil. He introduces himself as 'from the concrete' and challenges Ushijima.

While all this is happening, Karasuno volleyball team adviser, Ittetsu Takeda gets an invite to take part in Nekoma's training camp. While the boys study for their finals, their hearts aim for Tokyo!!!



#5 Ryūnosuke Tanaka (Yū Hayashi)
A powerful second year and could very well be the next Ace.

Position: Wing Spiker
Height: 177.2 cm
Birthday: March 3

Karasuno High 烏野高校
Captain: Daichi Sawamura
Manager: Kiyoko Shimizu
Hitoka Yachi
Coach: Keishin Ukai
Colors: White / Orange / Black

#3 Asahi Azumane (Hosoya Yoshimasa)
Despite being the ace with great spiking power, he can be quite cowardly.

Position: Wing Spiker, Ace
Height: 184.7 cm
Birthday: January 1

#4 Nishinoya Yuu (Nobuhiko Okamoto)
He won Overall Best Libero in middle school for his talent. He is Karasuno's Guardian God.

Position: Libero
Height: 159 cm
Birthday: October 10

#10 Hinata Shoyo (Ayumu Murase)
He aims to be ace despite his height just like the "Little Giant".

Position: Middle Blocker
Height: 162.8cm
Birthday: June 21

Karasuno High is a high school located in Torono Town, Miyagi Prefecture. It has often been associated with crows due to the school's name. The Boys' Volleyball Club's banner also reads "Take to the Skies".

Karasuno went to the nationals once under the guidance of Coach Ukai and the "Small Giant" and was famous throughout Miyagi. After this initial success, Karasuno failed to pass its prefecture's preliminaries in future tournaments and received the nicknames "The Fallen Champions" and "The Flightless Crows".

#11 Tsukishima Kei (Kōki Uchiyama)
He looks very disinterested but he's a player who think his actions skillfully.

Position: Middle Blocker
Height: 188.3 cm
Birthday: September 27

#9 Tobio Kageyama (Kaito Ishikawa)
This genius player "King of Court" has learned a lot about teamwork from the team.

Position: Setter
Height: 180.6 cm
Birthday: December 22

#12 Tadashi Yamaguchi (Sōma Saitō)
Nice and shy, his determination made him a very reliable part of the team.

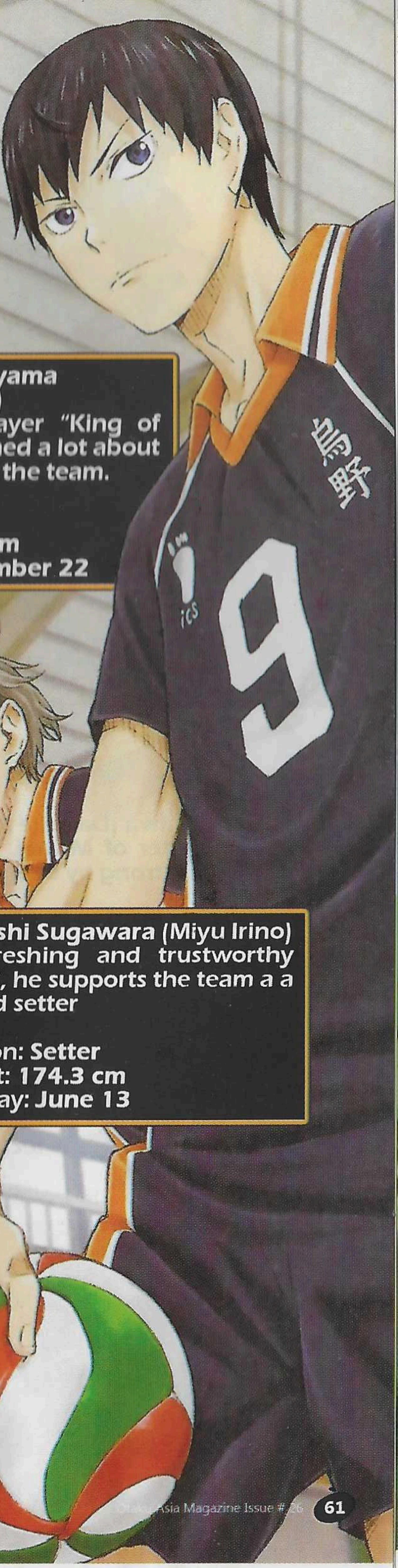
Position: Middle Blocker, Pinch Server
Height: 179.5 cm
Birthday: November 10

#2 Koshi Sugawara (Miyo Irino)
A refreshing and trustworthy senpai, he supports the team a a second setter

Position: Setter
Height: 174.3 cm
Birthday: June 13

#1 Daichi Sawamura (Satoshi Hino)
As the captain, he is the backbone of the team but also their lead.

Position: Captain, Wing Spiker
Height: 176.8 cm
Birthday: December 31





Haikyuu!! Season 2 will cover the training camp arc from the manga.

The Fukurodani Academy Group is a group of schools from the Kanto region of Tokyo which includes Nekoma High, Fukurōdani Academy, Shinzen, and Ubugawa High School. Nekoma's coach has invited Karasuno to play practice matches with them for a weekend.

In the Haikyuu!!: Jump Fiesta 2014 Special OVA, a new character, Lev Haiba was introduced as a new middle blocker for Nekoma.

Karasuno is practicing for the Spring High and their inevitable match with Shiratorizawa's Ace, Ushijima. In their road to Tokyo, they will meet with old rivals, Oikawa Tobio, Nekomata and make new ones.

That is if they pass their final exams and not take supplementary classes. While wild inside the court, four members of Karasuno is not doing very well in academics. We bet you can guess which ones they are.

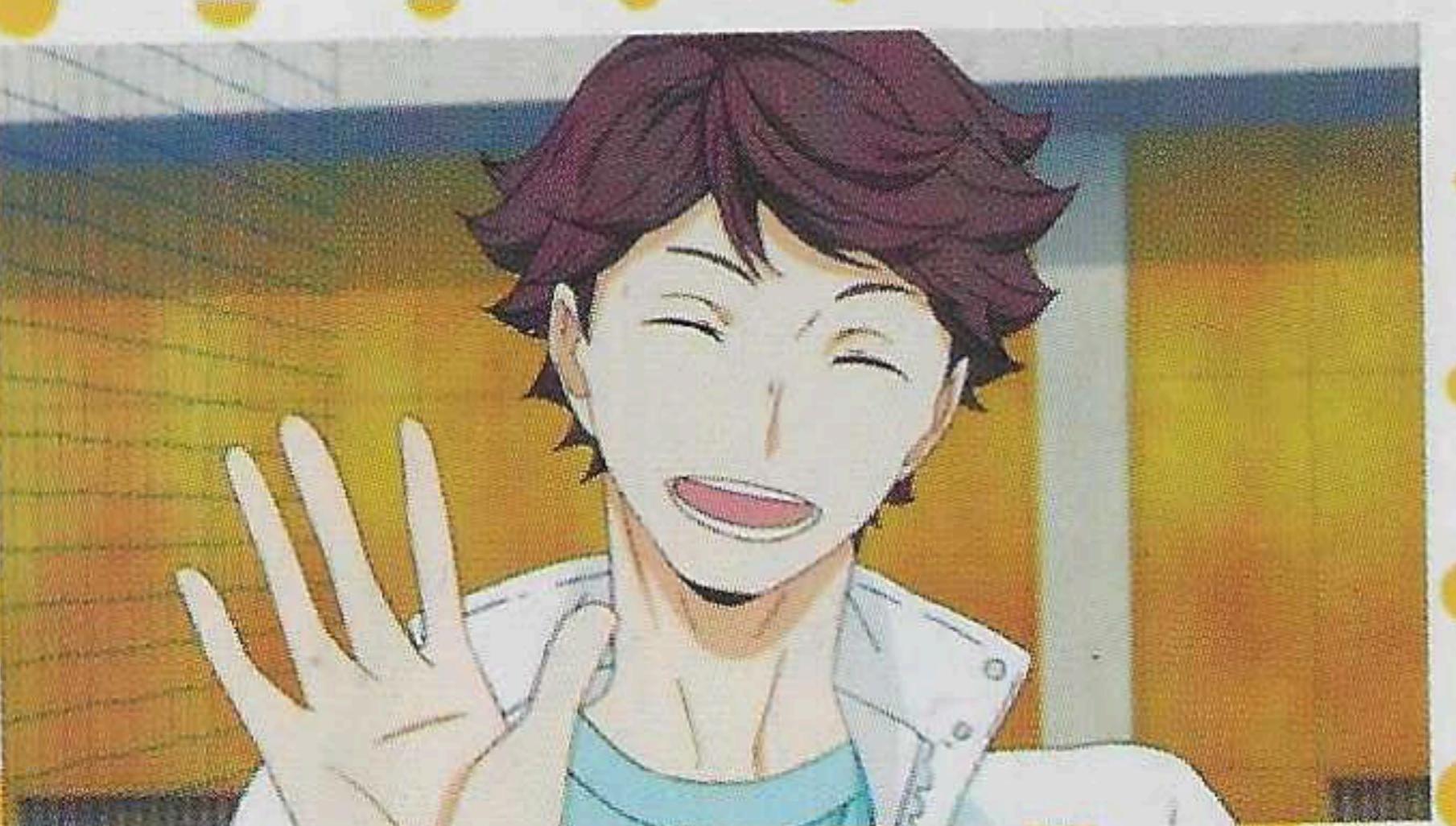


Nekoma High 音駒高校

Aobajōsai High 青葉城西高校

#1 Tōru Oikawa (Daisuke Namikawa)
The Ace Setter of Miyagi. He is also regarded as strong by Ushijima.

Position: Setter
Height: 184.3 cm
Birthday: July 20



#5 Kenma Kozume (Yūki Kaji)
Despite being skilled in volleyball, with his extraordinary game sense and technique, he is very quiet and modest

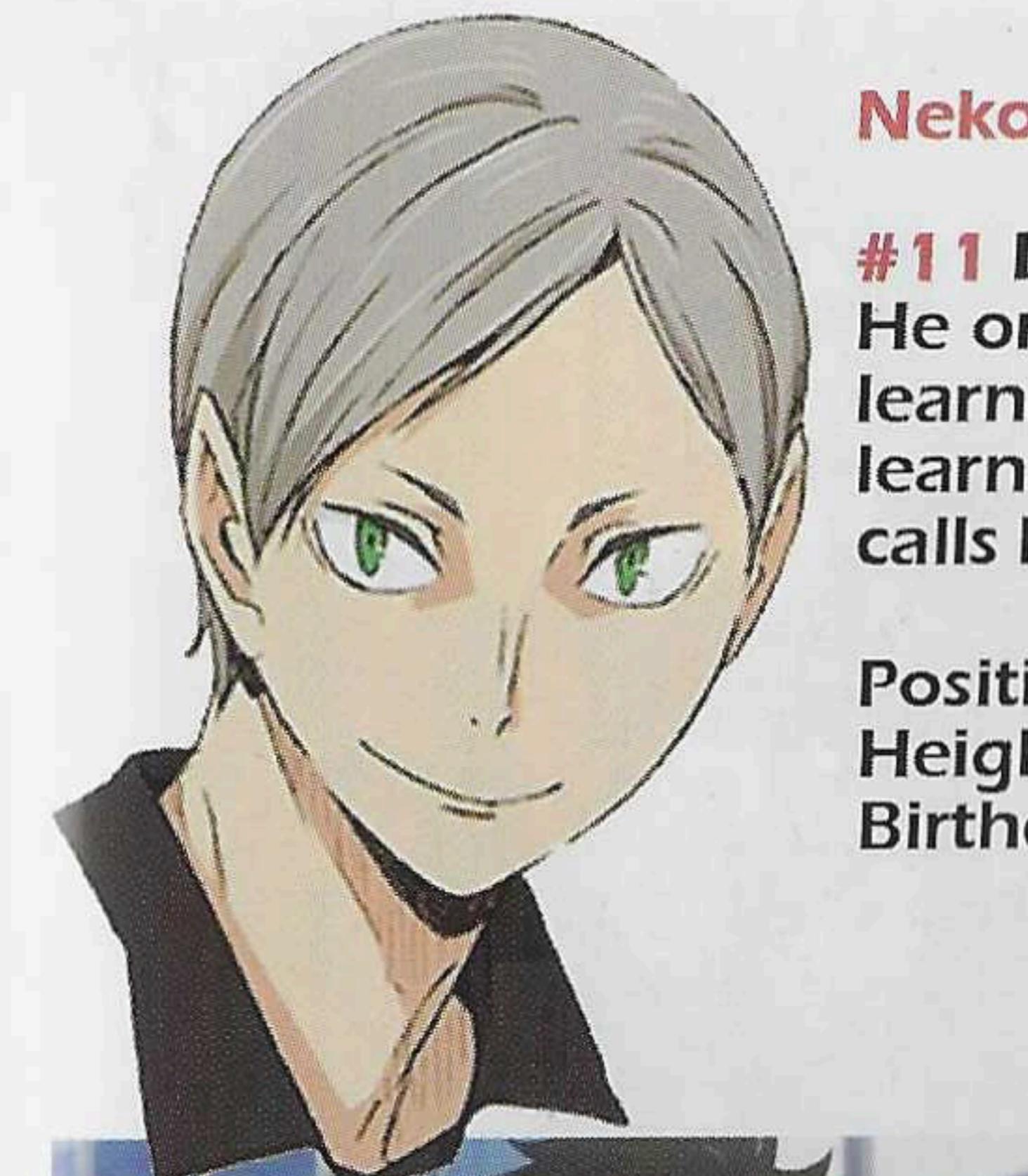
Position: Setter
Height: 169.2 cm
Birthday: October 16



Nekoma High 音駒高校

#11 Lev Haiba (Yuichi Nakamura)
He only started playing volleyball and is still learning but his height and willingness to learn makes him a formidable opponent. He calls himself an ace.

Position: Middle Blocker
Height: 194.3 cm
Birthday: October 30



Nekoma High 音駒高校

#1 Tetsurō Kuroo (Yuichi Nakamura)
He is the captain of Nekoma. During the excursion, he pushes Tsukishima and Hinata into practicing with them.

Position: Captain, Middle Blocker
Height: 187.7 cm
Birthday: November 17



Fukurōdani Academy 霧谷学園

#4 Kōtarō Bokuto (Ryōhei Kimura)
While being one of the top five aces in the country, Bokuto is playful and has mood swings

Position: Captain, Wing Spiker, Ace
Height: 185.3 cm
Birthday: September 20



Shiratorizawa Academy 音駒高校

#1 Wakatoshi Ushijima (Ryouta Takeuchi)
He is the number one ace in the prefecture. He is one of the main reasons why Shiratorizawa remains undefeated.

Position: Captain, Wing Spiker, Ace
Height: 189.5 cm
Birthday: August 13

Music

From the first season, they stayed with SPYAIR with a new opening song, I'm a Believer and Climber by Galileo Galilei as ending song.

The music of an anime creates a sense of feeling so it must match the feelings of the characters. In season 1, the Karasuno was establishing themselves as a team and being in terms with each player. In this new season, they are trying to evolve and learn new fighting styles. The music is by Asami Tachibana and Yuki Hayashi.

Art

It's a perfect second season in a sense that they did not change anything big. The Director is still Susumu Mitsunaka, written by Taku Kishimoto with Production I.G. There were improvements of course but I guess they wanted to keep the same thing things that the fans have enjoyed. For the hype, even Hinata and Kageyama's nendoroids were rereleased.



Plot

While it's still to early to say how long the Training Camp arc will be before the Spring High arc starts, the story promises to only get better and better. After losing to Aoba Josai, the team faces the fact that they are a weak team and works to improve. This could mean rivalry and bad blood. As someone who reads the manga, my advice would be to maintain an open mind.

While he is a clear protagonist, Hinata Shoyo is not the only one who plays volleyball. Every one of the players has proved their worth for the team and only aims to be better. Since we will be meeting more players, they are also important to the growth of our favorite team.

Conclusion

The Karasuno team still have much to learn and to experience. In this season, we see their thirst for growth and improvement.

Initially, we chose Haikyuu!! to be the cover because it is my favorite anime but after Cosplay Mania, we noticed that there were many Haikyuu!! fanart and cosplayers and so we know that this season will gain more fans.



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Our Story

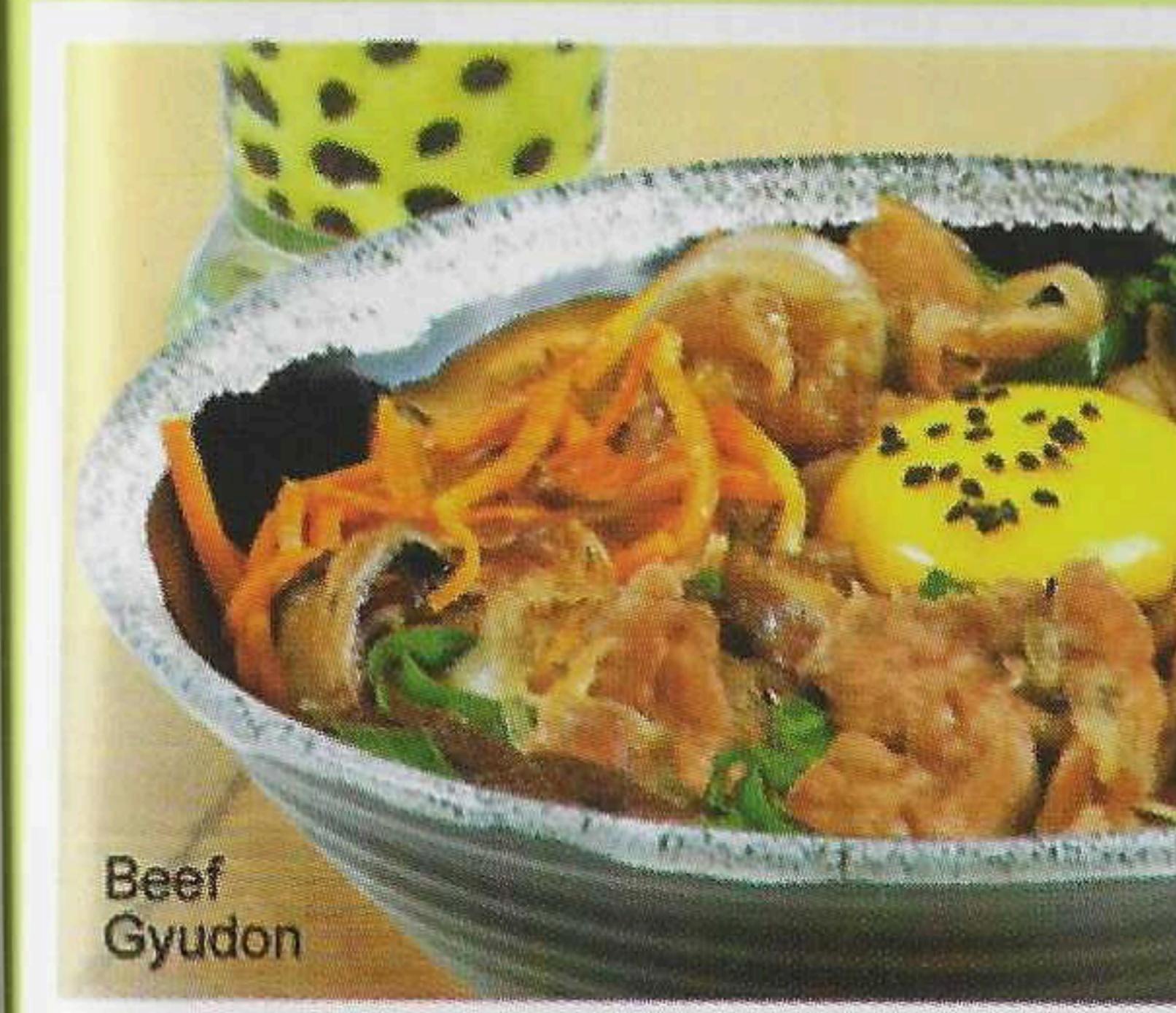
Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



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REVIEWS

Of Mystical Tales and Mysteries Owarimonogatari

by Lizac 3.0

Occult dealings are strange in the world we live in. Vampires and mythical creatures are superstitions and are merely ancient stories handed down from generation to generation. But **Araragi Koyomi** at the present time deals with it every day of his life. He seems a normal student on the surface, but he had a taste of bizarre happenings when he turned into a vampire himself. Fortunately, he was saved by a man named **Meme Oshino** from turning into a full-pledged vampire. Since then, he has acquired some demi-human abilities such as healing injuries quickly. Surprisingly, he also attracted many girls who have been victimized by life-threatening energies surrounding them. Araragi offers them help and his life hasn't been back to normal ever since.

The **Monogatari** series is an adaptation of the on-going light novel series of the same name. It was written by **Nisio Isin** and illustrated by Taiwanese artist **Vofan**. **Monogatari** series began with **Bakemonogatari** in 2009, followed by **Nisemonogatari** and **Nekomonogatari** in 2012. The **Monogatari Second Series** was produced shortly after in 2013. In 2014, **Hanamonogatari** and **Tsukimonogatari** with five and four episodes respectively were aired. **Owarimonogatari**, which is assumingly the seventh and last sequel of the **Monogatari** series, started airing in October 2015.

The ultimate question is, is this really the end for the **Monogatari** series? The Japanese word "owari" literally translates to "end" and **monogatari** to "story" which roughly implies that the story is nearing its end. **Owarimonogatari** is preceded by **Tsukimonogatari**, and it is clearly stated in Araragi's monologue that **Tsukimonogatari** is the beginning of the end. Fans of the series have to keep in mind, however, that the story does not follow the chronological order of its release. Much like the way how stories are passed on from person to person, there is no definite order as to how narrations should be followed. Perhaps in **Owarimonogatari**, we will have the answers. Araragi will begin his adventures again after many months of absence, thus the birth of another incredible story.

Prepare the red carpet for the guy in the red suit! **Arsene Lupin III** is back after three whopping decades of absence on Japanese TV. Lupin, with accomplices **Jigen Daisuke**, **Goemon Ishikawa XIII** and **Fujiko Mine**, and eternally chased by **Detective Zenigata**, is the legendary thief who steals the most valuable treasures all over the world. The manga series was written and illustrated by **Monkey Punch** in 1967, followed by different sequels shortly after. The latest anime spinoff connected to Lupin III's adventures was in fact, produced in 2012. But the spinoff is focused mainly on Fujiko Mine's story. In 2015, a major comeback of the infamous thief has been announced.

Set in **San Marino** and **Italy**, the new Lupin III series includes the same set of characters but younger and more energetic than ever. Lupin III aired in Italy on early spring of 2015. It is set to be aired in Japan in October 2015. The show starts with an invitation sent to Detective Zenigata to Lupin's wedding. He is to tie the knot with **Rebecca Rossellini**, an enormously rich heiress and businesswoman. However, it is actually a fake wedding which Lupin had plotted in order to steal the Royal Crown of Liberty. It is a treasure that only chosen women wear on the day of their wedding. Zenigata chases Lupin and other accomplices, not knowing Rossellini's role in the whole ordeal.

The anime series in 1985 and the new Lupin III currently airing in Japan have a huge discrepancy when it comes to target audience and generation. **Telecom Animation Film**, the animation studio responsible for the production of the new Lupin III series, would show thrilling scenes that would capture the taste of audiences regardless of their age. It would appeal to the new generation fans of action and adventure genres in anime. Refreshing plot, remarkable animation, and same comical characters, let Lupin III steal your hearts once more with the new Lupin III (now in his blue suit!) this 2015.

The Thief of all Thieves Lupin III Part IV

by Lizac 3.0



A Show You Can't Refuse Komori-san wa Kotowarenai!

by James



Let your yes be yes and no be no. For high school student **Shuri Komori**, however, can't seem to take such a basic maxim to heart, as she can't say no to any request – literally. Follow how this predicament of hers is going to affect her life in **Komori-san wa Kotowarenai!**

Based on the episodic 8-panel comedy manga by **Cool Kyoushinsha**, the show revolves around the life and times of the titular character **Shuri Komori**, a fifteen year-old middle-schooler who can't seem to turn down even the simplest of favors people ask her to do. And even though her friends – **Megumi Nishitori**, a girl who's very intelligent despite her age; and **Mako Negishi**, the class rep who's quite cynical about the world and is always late for school – always tell her to learn to say no, she can't help it. However, don't think Komori-san feels sad about it. In fact, she is happy to help people out. And because of her inevitable nature to accomplish whatever tasks she is requested of, she not only experiences these awesome misadventures, but also gains astonishing powers. How cool is that?

If you're in need of comic relief this season, look no further than **Komori-san wa Kotowarenai!** Just like Komori-san, you'll find it impossible to say no to this.

Last Class in School The Antimagic Academy 35th Test Platoon

by James

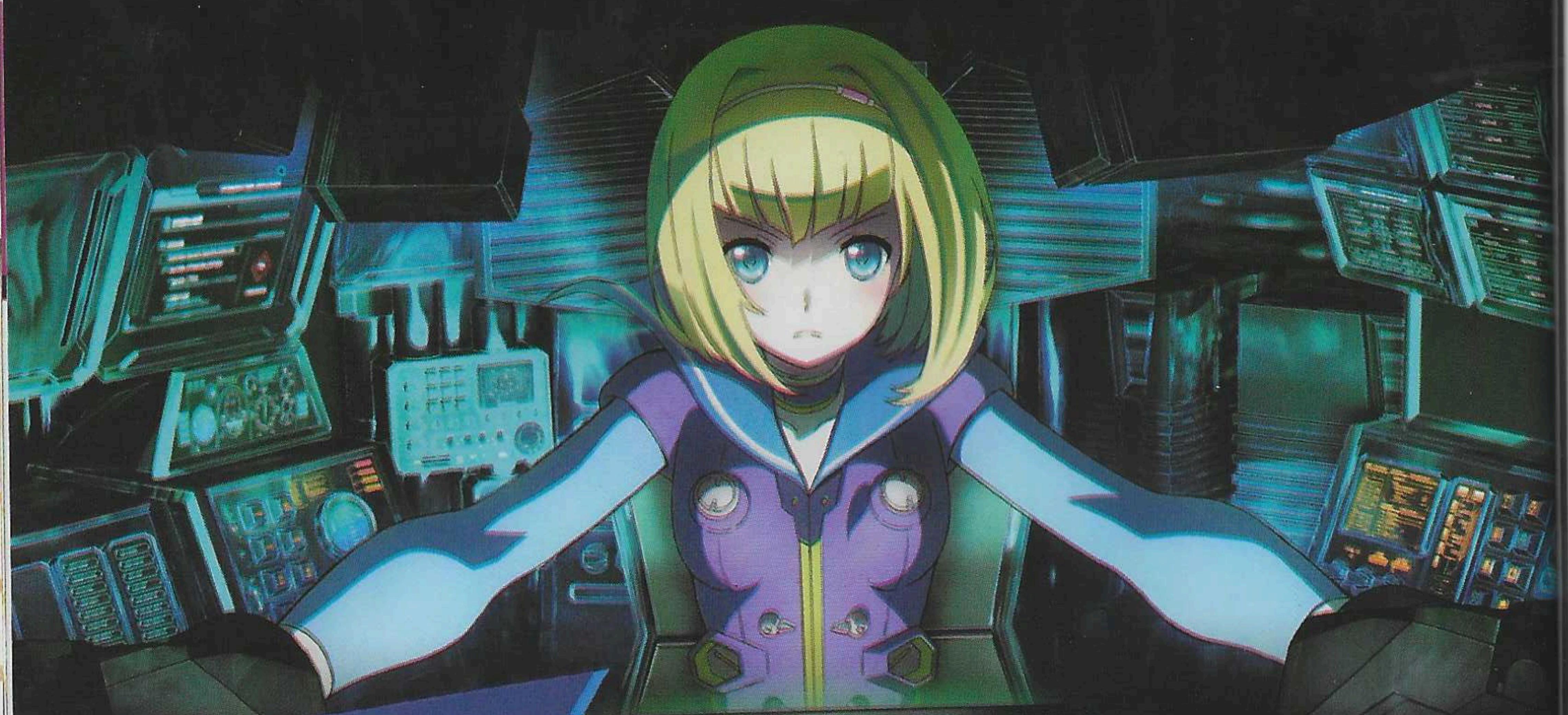


Everybody loves an underdog story, for it's quite easy to root for characters who are disadvantaged in one way or another. However, the problem with underdog stories is that they're too clichéd, and melodramatic to the point that they seem shallow. And this season, we have **The Antimagic Academy 35th Test Platoon**, which has an underdog theme. To add to that, the show itself is this season's probable underdog, as nowhere near as popular as other titles. So, just like its quirky cast, should you give it a fighting chance? Of course.

In an alternate reality where magical practitioners and artifacts still exist in a postmodern era, there is the **Antimagic Academy**, a school dedicated to training **Inquisitors**, specialists who hunt down and neutralize those who dabble in magic, as well as relics that are related to its practice. Joining this esteemed institution is **Takeru Kusanagi**, the student who's known as the **Crazy Sword Guy**, as he's perhaps the last Inquisitor-in-training to go for such an outdated weapon. On top of that bad reputation is the fact that he is part of what is probably the worst platoon in the entire school: **The 35th Test Platoon**. His co-troops include **Usagi Saionji**, a cute but clumsy girl; **Mari Nikaidou**, a stoic girl who's obsessed with recording their boring everyday; and **Ouka Ootori**, an ace Inquisitor who only got reassigned to the 35th Test Platoon because she disobeyed a direct order. Together, they must overcome their failures in order for them to fulfill their missions in magician-slaying.

Despite being set in an anti-magic school, this anime is one of those titles that employ a lot of **Magical School** tropes: a seemingly underpowered but actually competent protagonist, a harem, and a mission. However, unlike other **Magical School** anime, humor is its most prevalent tone. So if you're into the usual anime jokes, this one is for you.

The **Antimagic Academy 35th Test Platoon** isn't going to suit everybody's taste. But for those who will find it amusing, entertaining, and fun, then it's going to be a pretty good guilty pleasure.



One Giant War Machine Heavy Object

by James

War, despite being an ugly part of the human condition, is so deeply ingrained in our history and culture. It may change its face, but it will never completely disappear. And if the world's superpowers fight their battles today with guns, tanks, and jets, in an anime about a particular speculative future of warfare, it's an entirely different ball game. Mecha, right? Close. Humanoid-shaped mecha? Nope, too cliché. Because in an alternate anime reality, it's all about giant ball-shaped fortresses. Everyone, make way for Heavy Object.

In the late twenty-first century, the world's geopolitical landscape has changed, with many countries collapsing due to war. Instead of nations, the world is now divided between four coalitions. Accompanying this change is the complete facelift of warfare, as **Objects** have become the main weapons used in skirmishes between the world's armed forces. Among their ranks is an idealistic and introspective Object engineering student named **Quenser**, a hot-blooded soldier-in-training **Heivia**, and elite Object pilot **Milinda**. Together they maneuver a theater of war where gigantic metal juggernauts are king.

Produced by **JC Staff**, this fall anime is not exactly your typical mecha genre fare. With the protagonist being an engineer instead of a pilot, the war is seen not through the eyes of one who's engaging in direct combat, but of someone who sees this larger-than-life skirmishes. Aside from that, it also gives the audience a taste of what it's like for military personnel who are usually considered as supporting characters in a regular mecha anime.

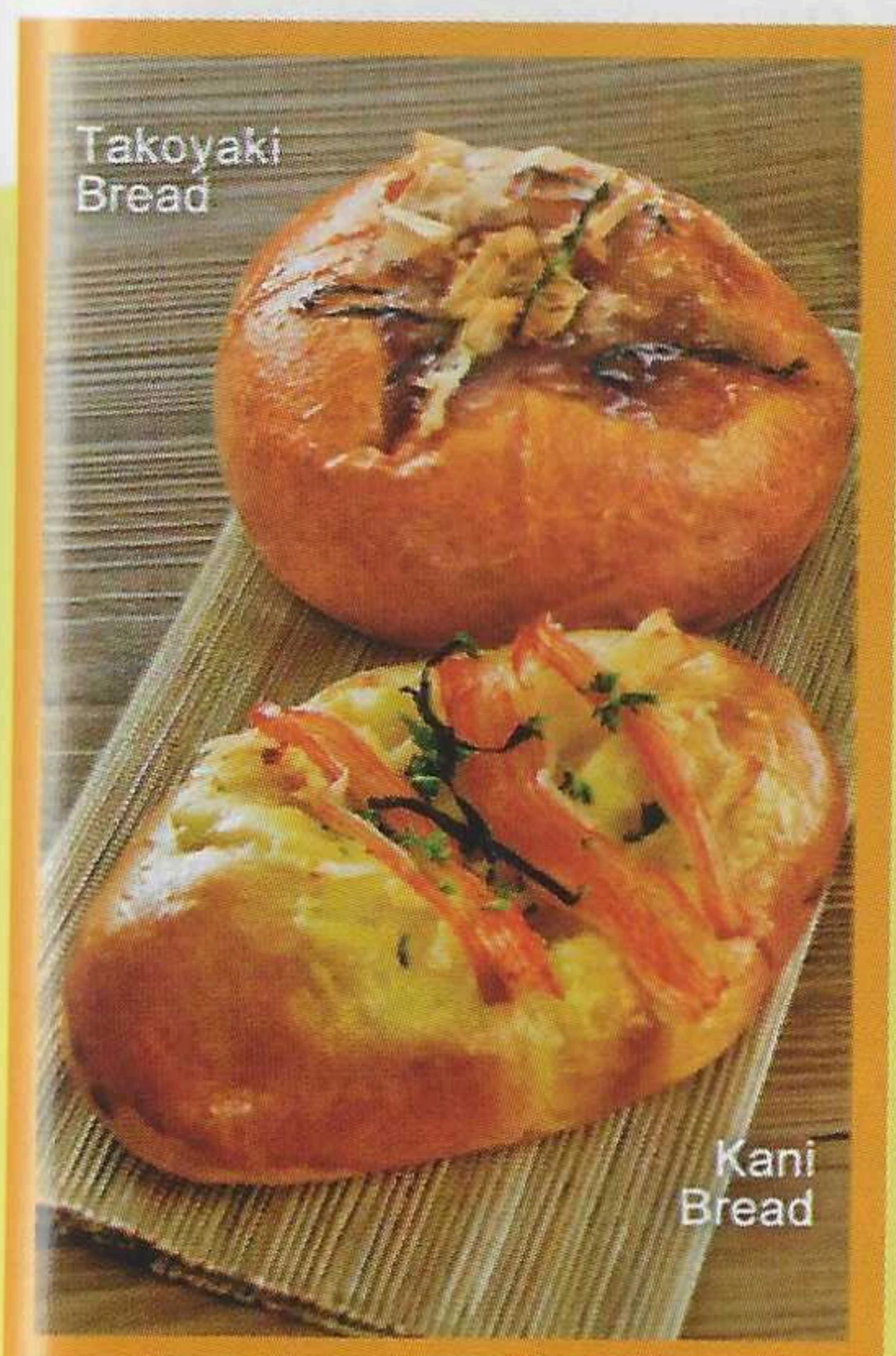
It's breath of fresh gunpowder-filled air thanks to its setting, characters, story, and point of view, it's definitely a must try this season. Who knows? Maybe it'll blow you away and leave you shell-shocked for more.



Honeybee Patisserie is not just your ordinary bakeshop. It offers a wide array of Japanese Inspired, freshly baked breads and homemade cakes and pastries.



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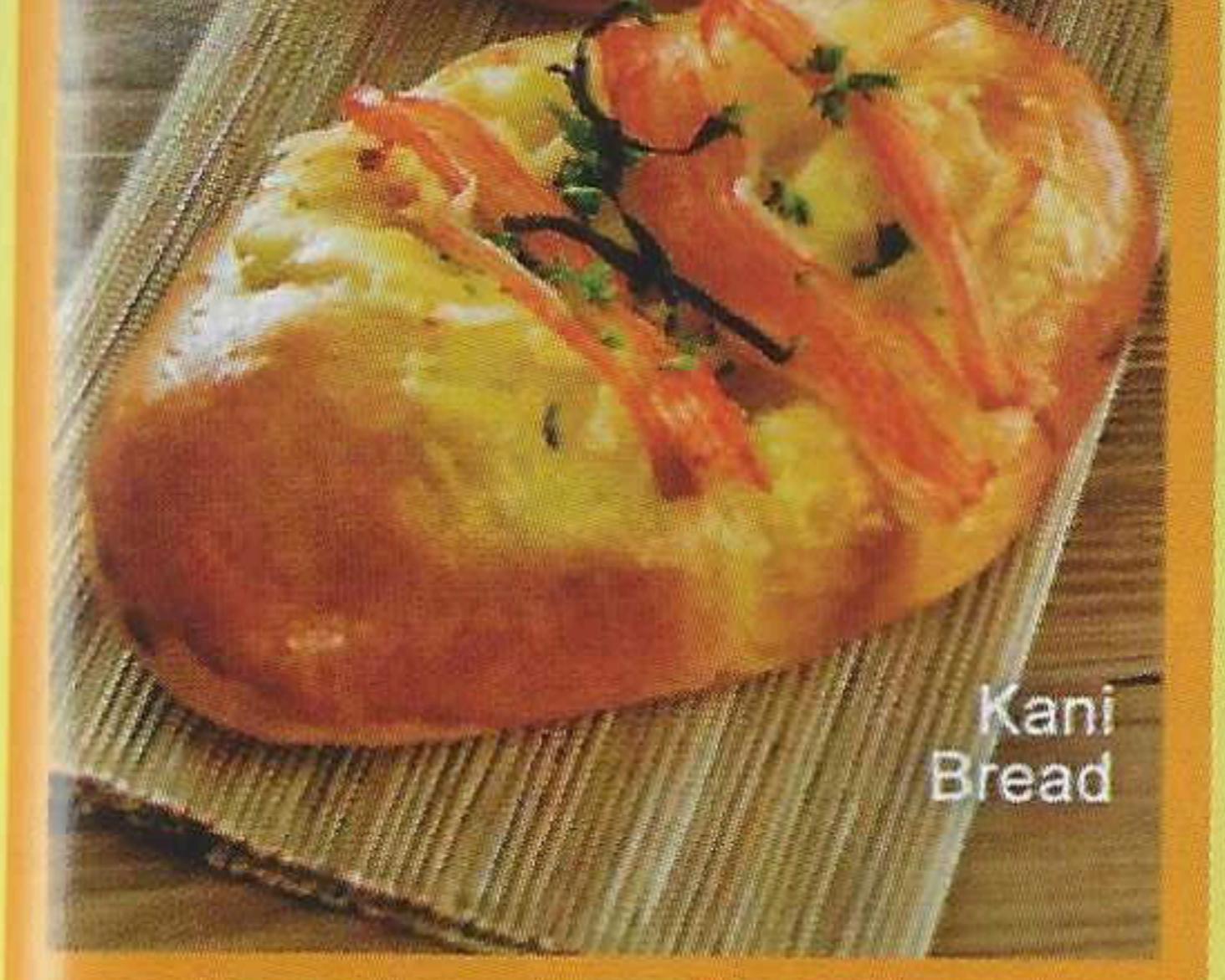
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For orders and pick-up:

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Greenhills San Juan
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Mon-Sun (10AM- 1 AM)

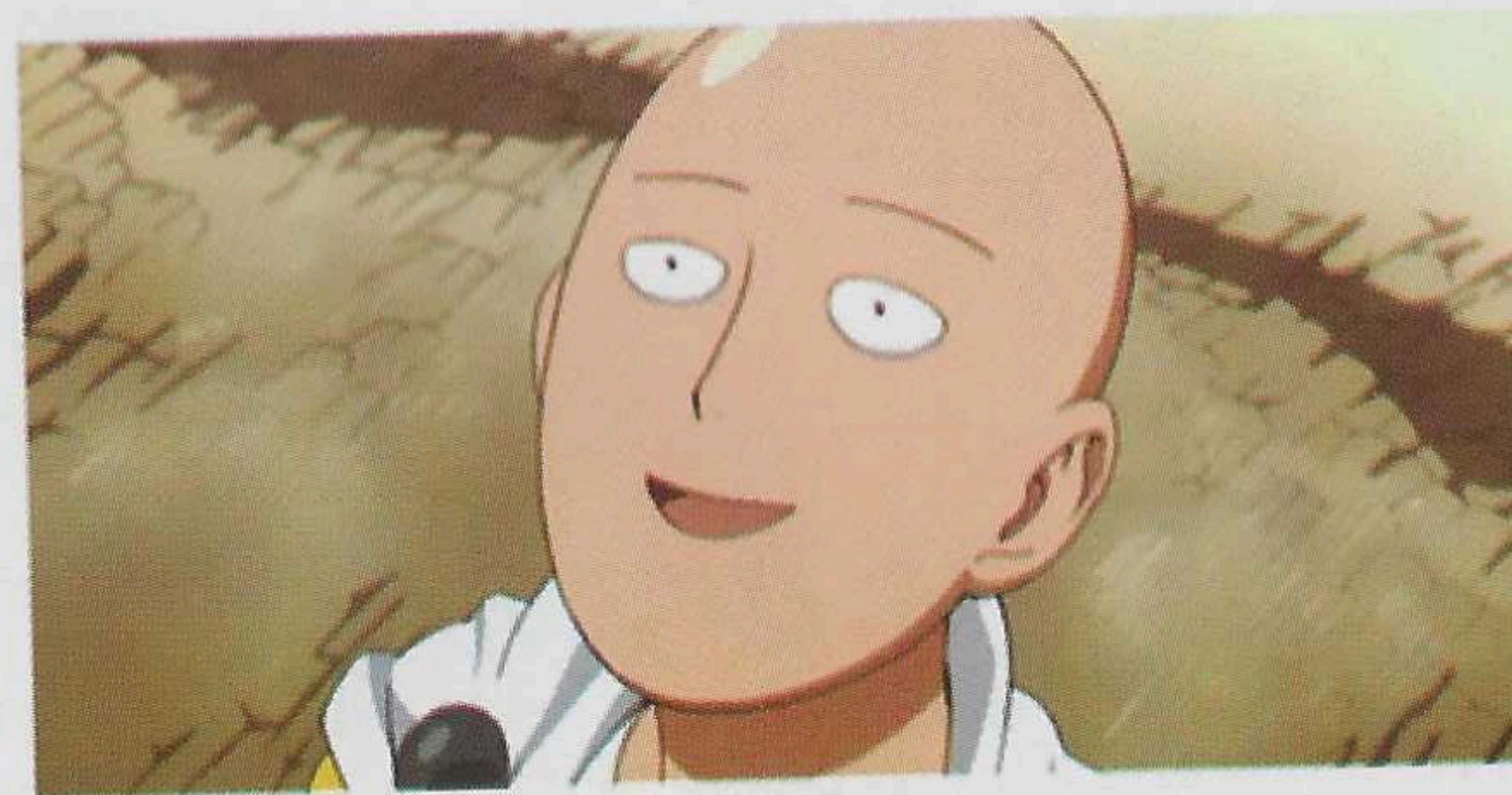
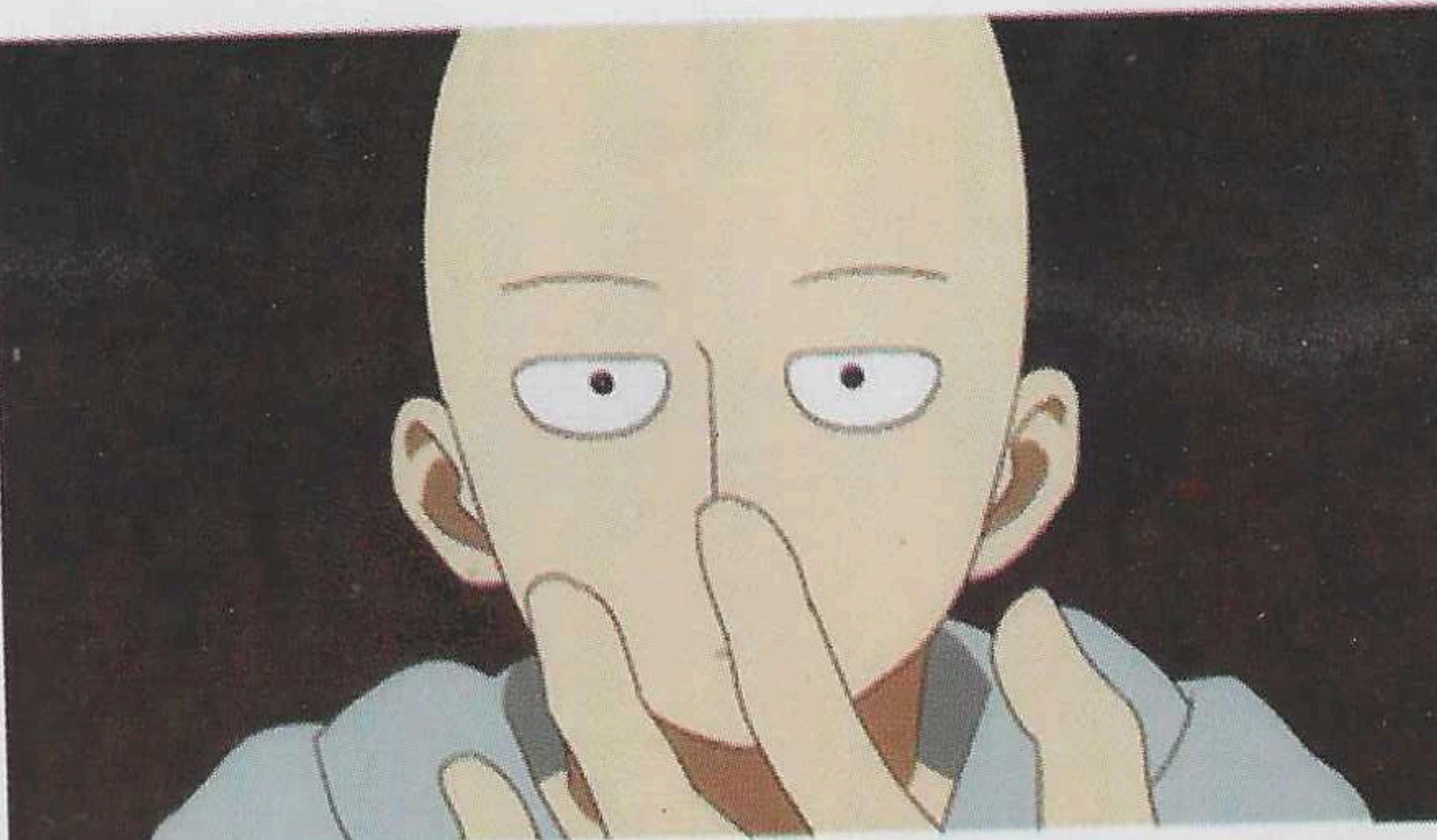
Fort
Unit 2, G/F
The Fort Residences
30th St., Taguig
478-7483
Mon-Sun (9am- 4am)

Westgate
Unit 101 Cluster J,
Westgate Center,
Commerce Ave, Alabang
511-0939
Mon-Sun (11am-12am)



HOT ANIME

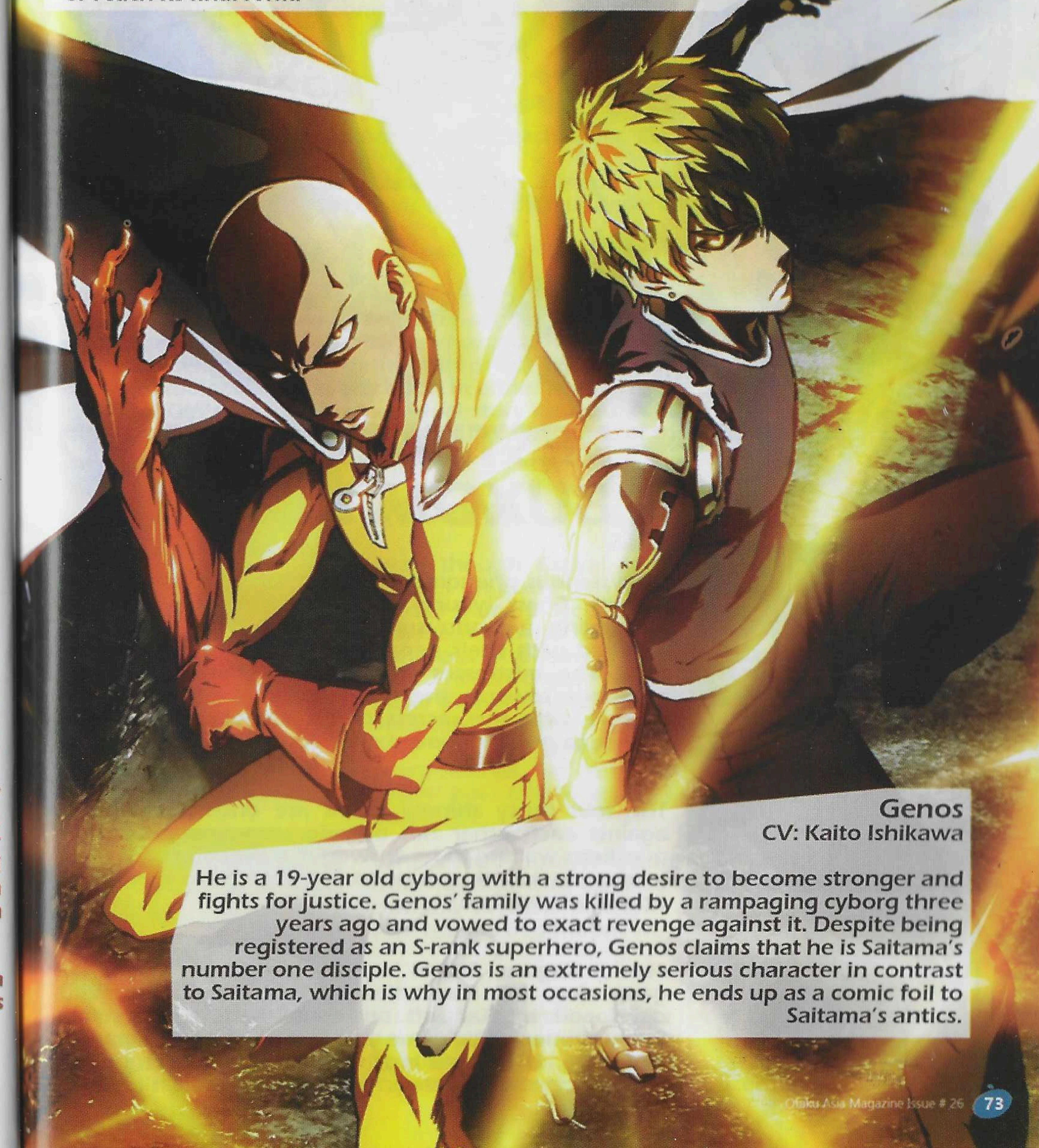
Enter Saitama, a dull-looking superhero assigned to defend Z-City from the forces of evil. Just like every superhero we know, he also has a personal problem that greatly affects his superhero life. To him, with great power come weaker opponents. Saitama became too strong to the point that every promising villain he came across with are taken down with a single punch. He admits that possessing absolute strength made him feel empty and has completely forgotten the thrill of overcoming a tough opponent.



CHARACTERS

Saitama CV: Makoto Furukawa

The protagonist of the series. Saitama is a bald superhero assigned to protect Z-City from potential threats to humanity. His hobby is being a superhero, but with the strength he possesses, fighting evil is starting to bore him. With his laid-back personality combined with his simplistic appearance, all of Saitama's battles end up being anticlimactic even when he lets his opponents rant or reach its final form.



SAVING THE CITY FROM DANGER, ONE PUNCH AT A TIME

By Reikisha

THE WORLD OF ONE PUNCH MAN

The Heroes Association

Founded by the multi-millionaire Chinner whose grandson was attacked by a Mysterious Being and saved by a passerby. The Heroes Association, AKA the Superhero Society, is an organization that handles all of the cities' superheroes and categorizes them by four classes and ranks.

Mysterious Beings

A term used to refer to creatures that pose a threat. Most of them are normal individuals that gained superpowers through scientific or supernatural means while others belong to a sentient race that remained unknown to humanity or aliens from outer space. Mysterious Beings are also categorized by the Heroes Association based on the damage they can cause to humanity, ranging from Wolf-tier to God-tier.

One Punch Man follows the story of Saitama, a former salaryman who became the strongest superhero in existence trying to fend off both evil and boredom. This action-packed series is also full of deadpan humor that the viewers will find amusing. Throughout the series, our friendly neighborhood Saitama will gain a handful of friends and lots of enemies. Madhouse guarantees that they will be able to deliver quality animation that the original material wished to show even before the anime adaptation became a reality.

Will Saitama ever find a villain strong enough for him to call his equal? Let's find out this fall 2015!

Genos

CV: Kaito Ishikawa

He is a 19-year old cyborg with a strong desire to become stronger and fights for justice. Genos' family was killed by a rampaging cyborg three years ago and vowed to exact revenge against it. Despite being registered as an S-rank superhero, Genos claims that he is Saitama's number one disciple. Genos is an extremely serious character in contrast to Saitama, which is why in most occasions, he ends up as a comic foil to Saitama's antics.



GAMER'S ARENA



FESTIVAL, ISLAND & BUXTOM BEAUTIES

article by: Reikisha



A mysterious phenomenon has taken all of the shinobi world's finest young girls into a strange world resembling a warm summer island. There, they are reunited with their departed loved ones for a limited time. The mistresses of the island have imposed a challenge towards the girls, who hail from four rival schools, with the secrets of the shinobi lore and the chance to give their loved ones' souls to rest as the prize.

The four busty shinobi teams are once again pitted against each other not only for supremacy, but also questions waiting to be answered. If ever one of the four teams win, can they bear to say farewell to their loved ones a second time?

Senran Kagura: Estival Versus is a 3D action brawler game for the Playstation 4 and Playstation Vita, developed by Tamsoft and published by Marvelous Entertainment. The game was first released in Japan on March 26, 2015, and is scheduled for an international release sometime between winter 2015 and earlier 2016.

GAMEPLAY

Estival Versus is the seventh installment of the *Senran Kagura* game franchise and the direct sequel to *Shinobi Versus*, featuring 5 brand new characters, 3 characters who were unplayable in the previous games, and 4 guest characters from other series.

Just like in the previous game, players complete missions by fighting against a horde of female shinobis while navigating through a series of confined areas. Sometimes, another playable character appears as a boss that the player must defeat. There are also missions that will have AI-controlled companions to fight alongside the player



CHANGES FROM SHINOBI VERSUS

- Instead of having a separate story for each team, *Estival Versus* features a unified story consisting of 8 parts.
- The ninja room has been replaced with a menu that has a dynamic scene in the background featuring three girls in their bikinis, depending on which girl is currently selected.
- Customization such as hair and accessories will not appear on the menu, but custom swimsuits will.
- The announcer heard during missions and on the menus can be changed in the settings, rather than being character-dependent.
- Accessories linked to a particular character can be removed by selecting them on the character select screen with the start or options button.
- Any character can wear any outfit in either normal mode or shinobi tenshin mode.
- *Shinobi Girl's Heart* is an individual story mode that must be unlocked through the main story first. The reason for this is because some of them contain spoilers.



REVIEW

Even though *Estival Versus* is an action game that focuses on busty girls in damaged clothing, it's still the kind of game players will take seriously. There's never a dull moment when a player is slashing their way through hundreds of enemy shinobis in a confined space since their chosen character can perform a series of attacks faster than the naked eye, unleash a momentary burst of aura that annihilates everything, and change into their final forms. However, some of the characters are overpowered due to the fact that they can effortlessly defeat boss characters before they have the chance to attack.

Whenever the player feels like they want to take a break from fighting, they can also customize the girls from their clothing to their hairstyle and have them pose like a supermodel in different ways!

Senran Kagura: Estival Versus is highly recommended for those who are bothered with the lack of action games in their PS4/Vita game library or those who like ecchi stuff in their games. Allow these buxom high school girls to impress you with their amazing shinobi skills as they cut through enemies and clothes like butter.



Just like what the masked man said during his battle with Minato Namikaze: "Kyuubi will eventually be mine and I will rule the world", it really happened and thus the fourth ninja war has started. Ninja war has only brought countless deaths, sadness and hatred. Previous ninja wars were all about different villages fighting each other; everyone not from your village is an enemy. But this time, it's different. All villages are against one mastermind. The future of the ninja world is in the hands of our current ninja generation.



The Ultimate Ninja Storm saga returns since 2013. This will be the last installment of the series and this game will be covering the final arcs of the Naruto series. Not only that, this game will have also have things included that is really great; great as a large serving of miso ramen with chashu fillet.

Naruto Shippuden: Ultimate Ninja Storm 4 is the sixth installment of the Ultimate Ninja Storm Series which is released by Namco Bandai Games and developed by Cyberconnect 2. This game will be released on February 2016: Japan release: February 4, 2016, Europe release: February 5, 2016, North America release: February 9, 2016.



Several trailers have been released as of now and those trailers made us want to have a copy of the game or to experience playing the game. It will be playable at PC (Microsoft Windows), Playstation 4 and Xbox one. One of the great things that this game will be having is that it will be more realistic than the previous versions. One of this is that in battle, whenever characters get hit by a weapon or jutsu clothes get worn out. You can also reverse the effect of a certain jutsu being hit on you. For example, you are being hit by a fire jutsu, you can reverse it by using a water jutsu. Another thing is that when the place/arena is being hit, damage could be seen on it.

The Last, Naruto The Movie and Naruto: Boruto The Movie characters' version will be also included in this game. New characters will be also featured in this game! Naruto and Hinata's son: Boruto Uzumaki and Sasuke and Sakura's daughter: Sarada Uchiha.

The Naruto Ultimate Ninja Storm game series is indeed a great game not only because of its great realistic graphics but also the game itself. Also, this is the upgrade; the ultimate form of the game series, which makes it thrilling and exciting to play. You'll not only get to rewatch the series again but you'll also get to experience to be in the anime series we all love and grew up with. Prepare yourselves and your gears to join the war together with our beloved ninjas and save the world this coming February 2016!





HOT ANIME

by Kahlua

Your prayer has been heard
LOUD and CLEAR

Noragami Aragoto

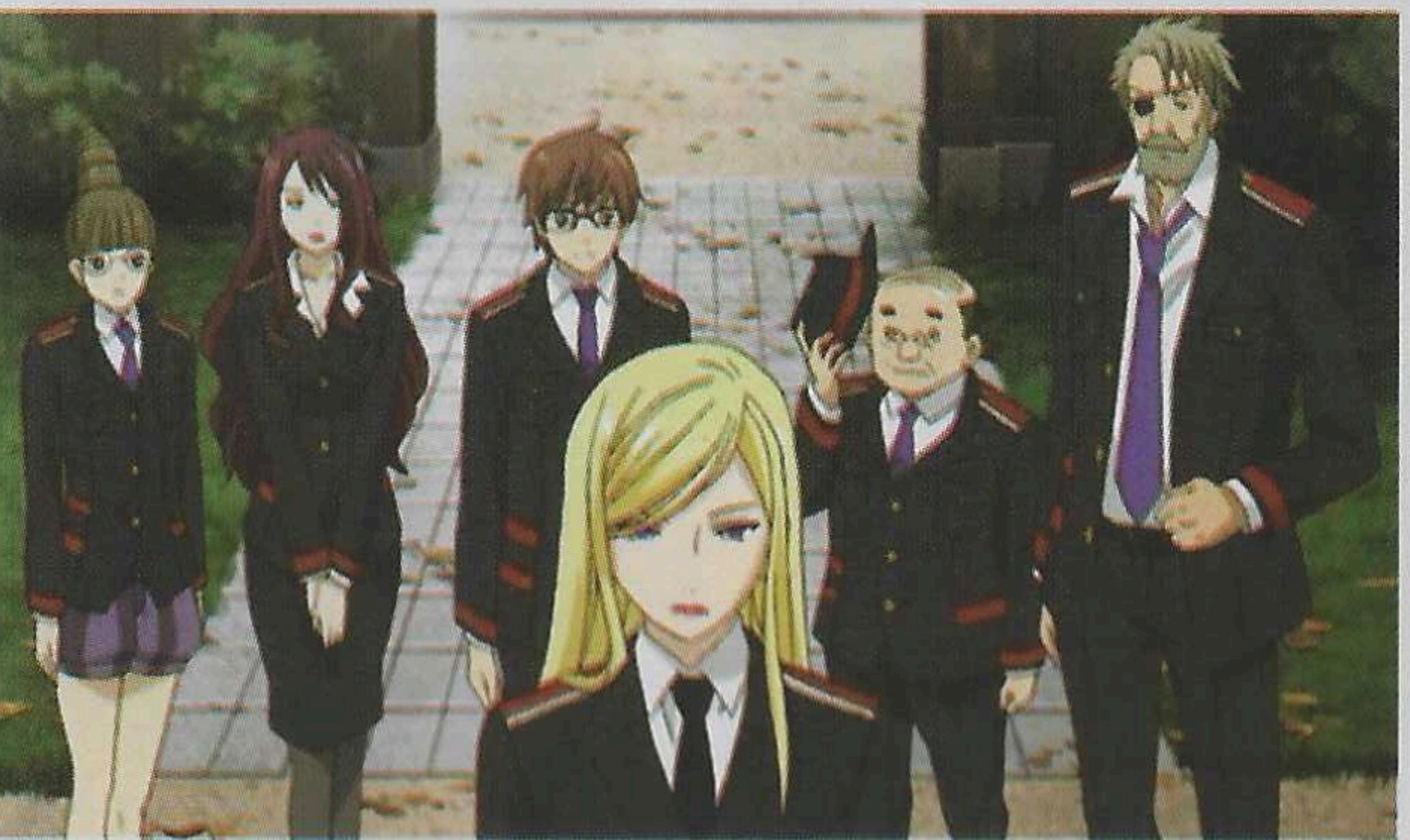


Season 2 of **Noragami**, **Noragami Aragoto**, has finally began airing in Japan last October 2, 2015, granting the prayers of all Yatoism followers out there.

Unbeknownst to the living people exists the **Far Shore**, a place coexisting with their own world (also called **Near Shore**), where phantoms live and affect the everyday life of humans. In between the two worlds are what they call the 'gods' who lives through the wishes of people and continues to balance the existence of phantoms and humans. Bound to grant all wishes their followers prayed for, gods are worshipped by thousands who visit their shrines every time.. but not for our favorite god **Yato**. He has no shrine, no consistent followers, nor a lot of shinkis. He's literally a nobody as a god.

But because of all of this that he is working hard – or not really since his last shinki resigned due to his joblessness– to grant any of people's wishes who comes to him for a very low price of 5 yen! Soon after he found his new shinki named **Yukine** whose loyalty for him continuously grows deeper as they spend more time together. This is also through the help of **Iki Hiyori**, a high school girl who became half-phantom after mindlessly saving Yato from getting hit by a truck (not knowing that he will not die from that) and getting hit herself. Hiyori's time with Yukine, Yato and also the other gods and shinkis she met eventually became precious to her and quite changed her life.

Noragami is originally a manga series by **Adachitoka** published in **Kodansha's Monthly Shounen Magazine** since January 2011. Twelve episodes of Season 1 anime adaptation was aired in Japan between January 2014 to March 2014, and a year after the the season ended, **Monthly Shounen Magazine** officially announced the release of Season 2 this coming fall.



Noragami Aragoto will feature the popular **Bishamon** arc where Yato's past will also finally be revealed, including his mysterious "father" that was mentioned on the last episode of Season 1. More combat scenes involving Yato and Bishamon and their shinkis are to be anticipated, while another of the Seven Gods of Fortune, **Ebisu**, will also have his debut appearance in the season.

As if giving back the feels and excitement for the first season, the opening theme, **Kyoran Hey Kids** by **The Oral Cigarettes**, gives the same vibes as the first season's opening thus the nostalgia.

Releasing the second season of **Noragami** just after a year is a real good news seeing how a lot of other good anime series were deprived of the second season for at least 5 years. We should be thankful to the producers – **Bones**, **FUNimation Entertainment**, **Ai Addiction** and **Avex Pictures** – for not letting us wait forever for the next season.



What is behind the unparalleled hatred of Bishamon towards Yato? Why does Kazuma, her most loyal shinki, insists that Yato is his benefactor despite his master's resentment? See in motion one of the best arcs of **Noragami**!



ONE PUNCH MAN

ワンパンマン





ノラガミ

●解説文2.25-2.55 MBまでにて
WEB: <http://noragami-anime.com>
Twitter: @noragami_anime
Illustrated by MIKOTO KON
Finished by HIRONOKU LIMING
Background by YOUNG
©2012 JAPAN ANIMATION



HERUM PROJECT
After all, who can be... but me? That's what I believe.
"Devoted to the search, original images, and more."



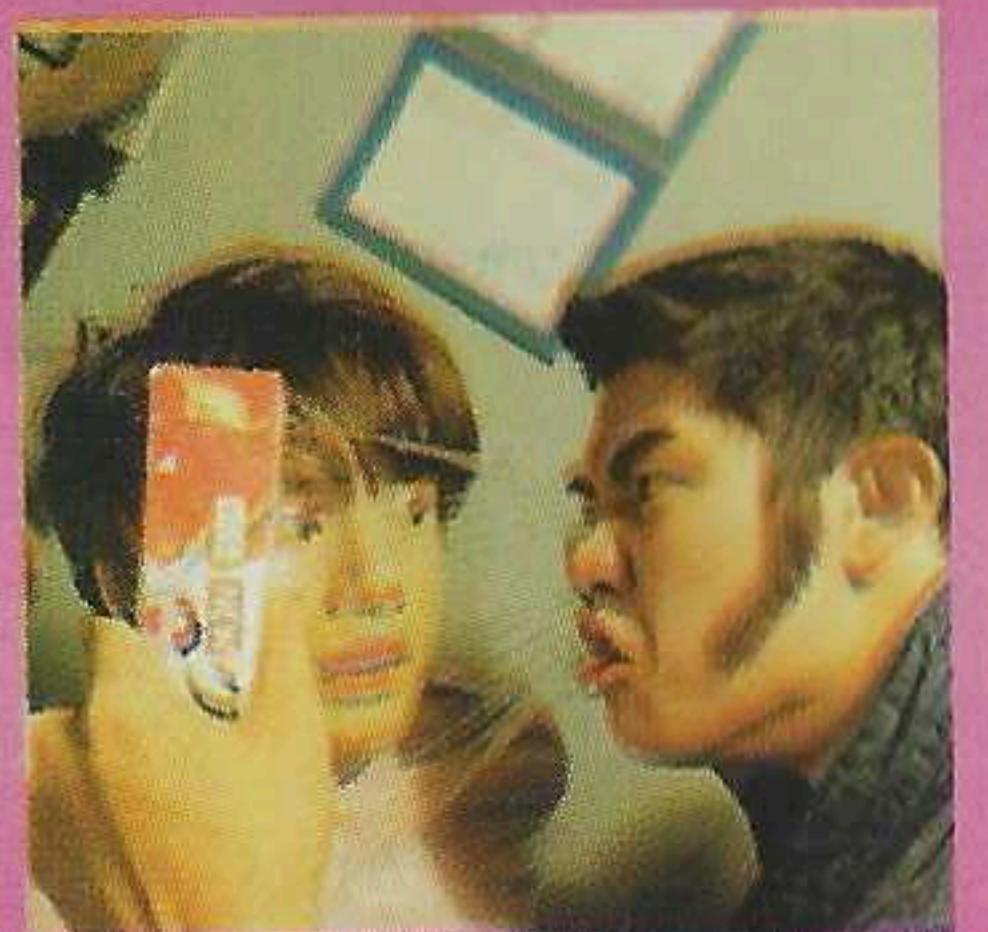
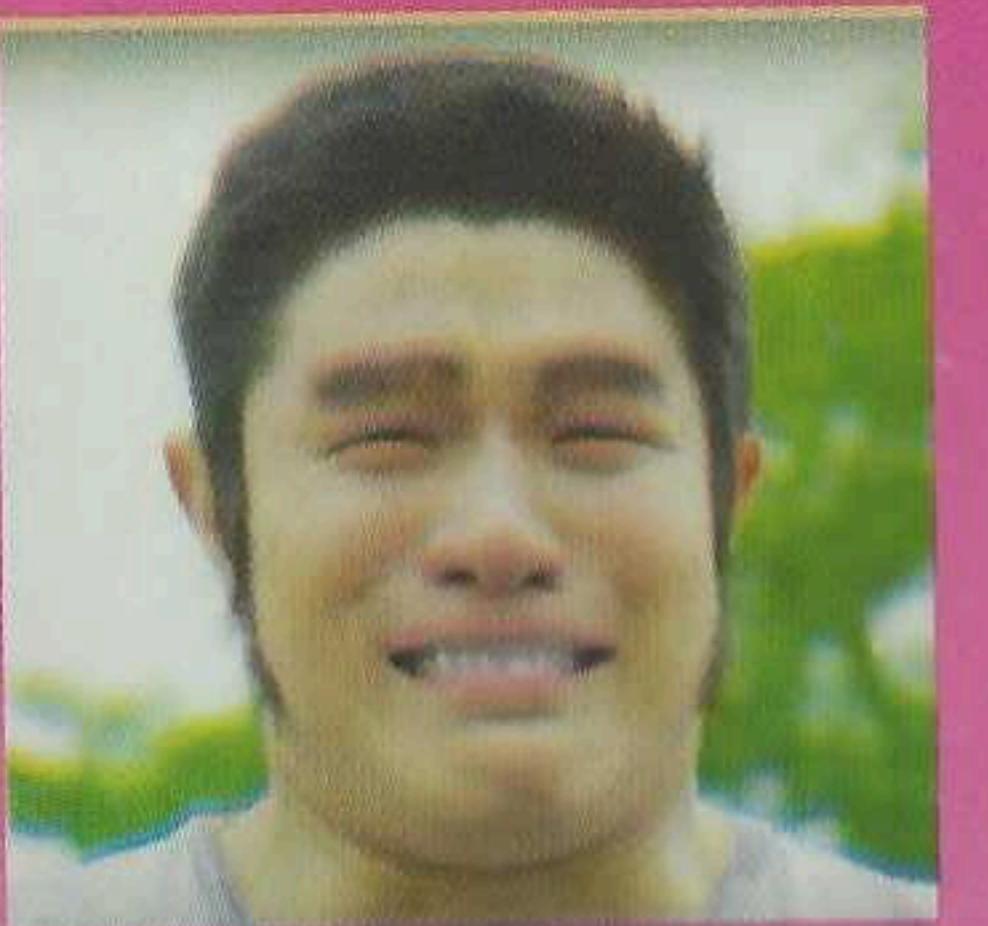
LIVE ACTION

by James



My Love Story, NOW SHOWING

Ore Monogatari
(Live Action)



The gentle giant with a soft side will be showing up on the silver screen, so be ready to see his love story the way it would probably unfold if it were in the real life in the live-action full-feature adaptation of *Ore Monogatari*, the wildly popular shoujo manga written by Kazune Kawahara and illustrated by Aruko, which also has an 24-episode anime adaptation by Madhouse.

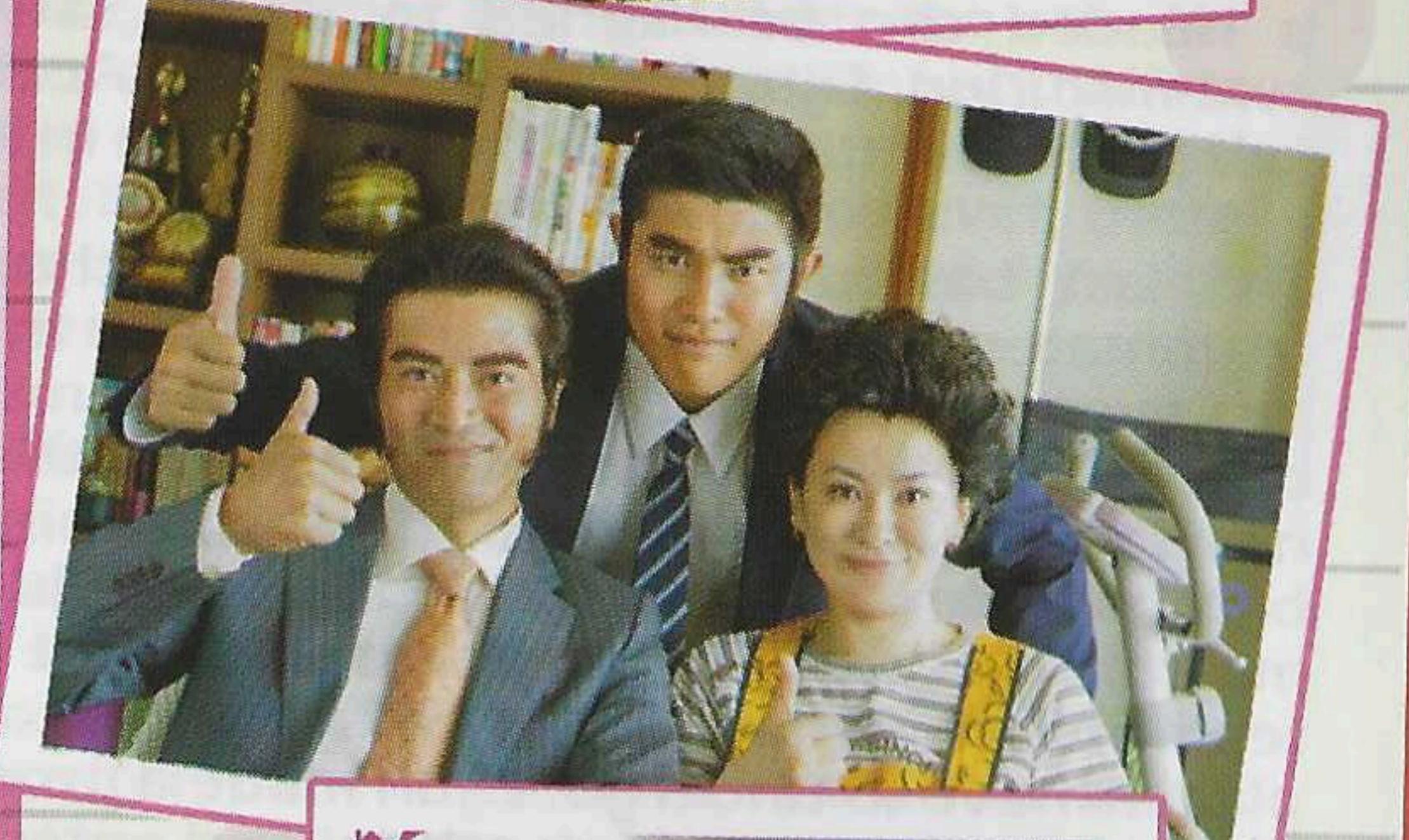
If you are yet to be familiar with the story, here's a quick lowdown of the plot: **Takeo Goda**, a freshman from **Shuei High School** with a heart of gold, is always getting turned down by the ladies just because he's big for his age – two meters tall and 120 kilograms heavy, to be exact. His luck in love, however, changes when he saves **Rinko Yamato**, a freshman from **Koizumi Girl's Academy**, from a molester on the train.



High school student **Takeo Goda**, the plus-sized hopeless romantic freshman with a heart of gold, will be played by **Ryohei Suzuki** – yes, the guy who played as **Kyosuke Shikijo**, the one and only underwear-only clad hero of justice **Hentai Kamen**. **Makoto Sunakawa**, Takeo's handsome childhood friend who always gets the ladies, will be played by **Kentaro Sakaguchi**. And of course, Takeo's pretty, petite, and pure-hearted princess **Rinko** will be played by **Mei Nagano**.

Just like Hollywood actors who are more than willing to do body transformations just to be able to have the perfect body for the characters they'll be playing, lead star Ryohei Suzuki has shown the same dedication, as he has put on thirty more kilograms just to be able to fill Takeo's shoes – literally.

Ore Monogatari will be hitting movie houses in Japan on October 31, 2015. So, is it going to hit Philippine shores as well? For now, we can only hope.





REQUESTS

Requested by:
Sofialyn Ewayan

PITCH TO THE FUTURE!

Ace of Diamond
by Lizac 3.0

Baseball is a dynamic sport that is well loved by people all over the world. Every pitch, hit, and catch of the ball has a meaning to both competing teams. It is a fast-paced sport; the turn of events mostly unexpected. The direction to where a baseball match is headed can be likened to Eijun Sawamura's pitch: unpredictable, peculiar, awe-inspiring. Eijun is the main man of Ace of Diamond, the enthusiastic captain of a low-profile middle school baseball team in Nagano, and an amazing pitcher himself.

The last baseball match in middle school did not end well for Eijun and his teammates. Add to it the fact that their middle school is closing down makes their loss even more painful. The rival team is much stronger, although they all did their best with their unwavering school spirit. Eijun's effort to pitch most especially does not go unnoticed by a certain Rei Takashima. She is the official scout of Seidou High baseball team based in Tokyo. Rei saw Eijun's great potential as a pitcher during the match. She gives Eijun a visit at his home to be offered a position in the said elite team. Eijun was invited to Tokyo to personally see the training that Seidou high players have to undergo. Eijun made a promise with his middle school baseball team to get into the same high school and enter Nationals. But with what he experienced on the day he was in Seidou High, he might just have a change of heart.

Ace of Diamond or more popularly known as **Daia no Ace**, is a sports shounen manga written and illustrated by Yuji Terajima. It was published by **Kodansha** and serialized in **Weekly Shounen Magazine** from 2006 to 2015. The manga ended on March 2015, but **Ace of Diamond Act II** is currently on the works. **Ace of Diamond** also had an anime adaptation with 75 episodes under the studios **Madhouse** and **Production I.G**, and aired from October 2013 to March 2015. The second season premiered on April 2015 and is currently on-going.

Baseball as a sport is not for everyone to appreciate. Some of the rules are difficult to follow even though the game seems simple. With **Ace of Diamond**, the audience can easily understand the basics and at the same time, find it compelling to watch. Catch Seijun and the other interesting characters in **Ace of Diamond** while they chase their high school baseball dream.

Requested by:
Jelai Otamegone

**THE WORLD
UNDER THE SEA**

Nagi no Asakura
by Lizac 3.0

Life underwater holds mysteries that cannot be solved. The vastness of the oceans prompts people to think that there might really be other beings under the sea. No one could prove or deny the existence of mermaids, mythical sea creatures and other kinds of dangerous fish. As the bottom of the ocean cannot be reached by normal people, we can only make assumptions about it. In **Nagi no Asakura**, however, there are normal people living normal lives on the ocean floor. They live peacefully with corals, fish, and other usual creatures in the sea.

A middle school in the sea village of **Shioshishio** closes down, urging four middle school friends from the said village to live on the surface. They attend **Mihama Middle School** where some of the previous residents of the sea now study. Since the land dwellers all used to live in the sea a long time ago, the long history of rift between the two villages cannot be avoided. **Manaka**, **Kaname**, **Hikari**, and **Chisaki** find themselves struggling to adjust to the environment in the land, and at the same time, learning about their own feelings.

Nagi no Asakura is originally a manga written by Project-118 and published by **ASCII Media works**. The first manga with three volumes was illustrated by **Risou Maeda** while the second one containing only one volume of which follows the four-panel comic strip manga format was illustrated by **Anko Chatou**. An anime adaptation was produced by **P.A. works**, the animation studio known for animating breathtaking scenery. It aired in October in the early fall of 2013 and ended in April in the early spring of 2014, covering almost three seasons. **Nagi no Asakura** has 26 episodes that show the importance of each character introduced in the series and their relationships with the protagonists.

Nagi no Asakura revolves around the creative concept of living under the sea. It explores the numerous possibilities that the seas can offer to human beings. With its vivid colors, good characters, and amazing storyline, you can appreciate the universe of the sea with **Nagi no Asakura**.

Requested by:
Princess Paula Caparas

IN THE NAME OF LADYSHIP AND FREE RENT

Yamato Nadeshiko Shichi Henge

by James



Who's that pale girl with old clothes and really long black hair? Sadako, right? Nope, you spelled Sunako wrong. Then again, from the get-go, it seems that there's not much of a difference. Well, actually, there is. Because aside from the fact that Sunako's a living, breathing human being, she's got four guys chasing her around. Yes, she's beautiful. That, however, wasn't always the case. So, how did a creepy girl become a pretty girl? Follow her story in Yamato Nadeshiko Shichi Henge.

Based on the popular manga of the same name, which is also known as **The Wallflower** in English-speaking countries, this 25-episode anime is centered around **Sunako Nakahara**, who is, just like what was mentioned above, a dark, brooding, and mysterious girl with long and unkempt black hair and an out-of-date fashion statement. Thankfully, to the rescue are four boys – the tenants of **Mine Nakahara**, Sunako's aunt. **Kyouhei Takano**, **Takenaga Oda**, **Ranmaru Morii**, and **Yukinojo Toyama** have been asked by Sunako's aunt to turn her into a decent, proper lady. If they succeed, they no longer have to pay for their rent. If they fail, however, their landlady is going to triple the rent. So, is Sunako going to become a pretty and graceful lass? Are the boys going to get free lodging? You're going to have to stick around to find out.

If you're looking for a comedic and sweet reverse harem with very likeable characters, then Yamato Nadeshiko Shichi Henge is perfect for you.



Requested by:
Wendee Marbebe

Power always comes at a price, and for the sake of power, some sacrifice freedom, happiness, and justice. In the secrecy of their powers from the rest of the normal humans in society, **Nice**, a prodigy ranked to be the best among the selected humans with powers called **Minimum Holders**, chose freedom over being supported by the **Facultas Academy** because of his rank as a top graduate. He chose to create "**Hamatora**," a private investigating team based in Cafe Nowhere in Yokohama. Still, challenging an institution will not be easy even for a genius.

With 12 episodes, **Hamatora: The Animation** is produced in January 2014. Behind this success of the animated series are **Sentai Filmworks**, **NAZ**, directors **Seiji Kishi** and **Hiroshi Kimura**, series composers **Jun Kumagai** and **Touko Machida**, and music coordinator **Makoto Yoshimori**. However, biggest credits go to **Natsu Masumai** for the original concept and **Yuuki Kodama** for the original character design and **Yuu Wazu's** adaptation of it. As a mixed-media project, Hamatora started as a manga, continues as two animé series (season 2 is introduced as **Re: Hamatora**), games, and more formats in the future. Some of the seiyuuus featured here are **Ryota Ohsaka** as **Nice**, **Hiroshi Kamiya** as **Art**, and **Wataru Hatano** as **Murasaki**.

Despite looking like a teenager who is easy-going and always broke, **Nice** believes that he has a bigger purpose other than letting the academy enslave the **Minimums** for their own purposes. He collaborates with **Murasaki**, who first sees him as his rival, and **Art**, a friend working as a police agent, to unravel the mystery of serial killings of **Minimum Holders** to create **Minimum Holders** out of ordinary humans.

Join Hamatora in projecting the wide horizons and limits of power!

**BITS**

FANFICTION: UNLEASH YOUR IMAGINATION

by Yani

TOP 10 ANIME/MANGA SERIES WITH THE MOST NUMBER OF STORIES:



1: NARUTO - 392,000

- #2: Inuyasha - 115,000
- #3: Hetalia - Axis Powers - 115,000
- #4: Bleach - 81,400
- #5: Yu-Gi-Oh! - 66,000
- #6: Fairy Tail - 49,400
- #7: Fullmetal Alchemist - 46,800
- #8: Dragonball Z - 46,300
- #9: Digimon - 43,000
- #10: Gundam Wing/AC - 41,500

Every anime has its own storyline which makes it unique however we cannot erase the fact that some of would always wonder what if the anime had a different storyline, genre or protagonist/s.

Fanfiction.net is one of the popular websites where you can find fictional stories of our favorite anime and mangas written by the fans itself. Anyone can write and submit their fan fictions as long as they register. Registration is free! Another feature of this website is that you can write stories from two different anime/manga series (crossover). Fanfiction.net is founded in 1998 by a Los Angeles computer programmer named Xing Li.

Aside from anime and manga, you can also write in this website your own stories from movies, books, cartoons, plays/musicals, TV Shows and games. Please be reminded that not all are allowed to be published since some of the writers and creators have forbidden their work to have a fan fiction story.

Millions of stories to choose from, you'll never get bored or ran out of stories to read! And also, don't forget to leave a review on every chapter; it motivates the writer to update their stories fast and they can see from there that there are people who reads their work. If you have any stories in your mind or your working on, Fanfiction is calling out for you! Upload it and let the world see how great your imagination in writing fan fiction stories!



MONITO MONITA

by Yani

The art of exchanging gifts within a group of people. It can either be within your friends, classmates, co workers, family or loved ones. It is usually done within the month of December and before your Christmas party day.

I know that most of us know how it is done but let's have a recap. Every person who is included in the monito monita should write their names on a piece of white paper. And then, they will put in a box and shake it. Every person should pick a piece. Take note that no one should see the name written on the paper.

Every week or a day will be assigned on what category of the gift you should give to your monito/monita. Examples are: something soft, round, long or colorful. You must put it under the Christmas tree and there's a catch, no one must see you putting the gift on the Christmas tree and of course, you must only write the name of your monito/monita on the gift. The price of the gift may depend but the final gift must be a bit expensive than the others.

The moment when you are putting the gift under the Christmas tree is like you are a ninja. No one should see you placing it or else your doom.... I mean someone could know and could gossip it among the group but you could always bribe/threat that person.... Just kidding. Another thing that makes it exciting is that you will observe what your monito/monita wants... it's like your a stalker, looking at his stuffs checking out his social media accounts on what does he/she like.

Once you've got your gifts, it's really fun guessing the gifts and some of them are really easy to guess. Most of them are the something soft/long which is marshmallow or ruler and some of them are really hard to guess. It would be nicer if the person picked your name knows the stuff you like. That person knows you or did a mini research about the things you like.

Christmas is near and this would be a perfect activity among your group; to make your Christmas merrier~



MERRY CHRISTMAS OTAFANS!~



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#THROWBACK



ミルモでポン!

by Yani

A mug that grants wishes.... would anyone believe that? Actually yes and that's how our protagonists Mirmo and Kaede Minami met. One day, Kaede encountered a mysterious shop which sells various items. She bought a mug from that store and thus, followed the instruction on how will that mug will grant your wish. Pour hot cocoa drink on that mug while saying your wish. Mirmo then appeared, the muglox fairy that can grant Kaede's wish. Her wish was to have a date with her crush Setsu.



Mirmo! is a Japanese manga written by Hiromu Shinozuka. The manga ran from July 2001 to December 2005. In the year 2002, an anime was released which had four seasons. It was aired from April 2002 up to September 2005. Mirmo was also aired in our local channels ABS-CBN and HERO TV.

This anime was one of our classic magical anime that we grew up with. Remember the times we used to dance and sing their magical chant while doing their magic? Once again, let's have the nostalgic feeling we had in our childhood by following Kaede and Mirmo's supernatural adventure together with their friends and the mugloxes fulfilling their partner's wishes.



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